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Tract No. 92

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Issued September, 1913

Part I

Articles of Incorporation
Officers—Membership

Annual Report for 1912-1913

Part II

Northern Ohio During the War of 1812, from
Manuscripts in the Collections of

The Western Reserve Historical Society

with introduction by

ELBERT JAY BENTON, Ph. D.

Professor of History in the Western Reserve University

Cleveland, Ohio

1913

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STATE OF OHIO

These Articles of Incorporation of

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Witnesseth, That we, the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of the State of Ohio, desiring to form a corporation not for profit, under the general corporation laws of said State, do hereby certify:

FIRST. The name of said corporation shall be The Western Reserve Historical Society.

SECOND. Said corporation shall be located and its principal business transacted at the City of Cleveland, in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

THIRD. The purpose for which said corporation is formed is not profit, but is to discover, collect and preserve whatever relates to the history, biography, genealogy and antiquities of Ohio and the West; and of the people dwelling therein, including the physical history and condition of that State; to maintain a museum and library, and to extend knowledge upon the subjects mentioned by literary meetings, by publication and by other proper means.

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands, this seventh day of March, A. D., 1892.

Henry C. Ranney,
 D. W. Manchester,
 Amos Townsend,
 William Bingham,

Charles C. Baldwin,
 David C. Baldwin,
 Percy W. Rice,
 Jas. D. Cleveland,

A. T. Brewer.

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 The Secretary

OCT 10 1893

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The Society consists of three classes of members.

- (1) Annual or Sustaining members have full privileges, use of library, all publications, annual fee is ten dollars.
- (2) Controlling members, who alone have the voting franchise, are life members, fee one hundred dollars(one payment), and Patrons, fee five hundred dollars.
- (3) Honorary and corresponding members are chosen by vote of the Trustees.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN:—

My term of office as President of the Society extended up to January of this year at which time I was elected to the newly created position of "Vice President and Director." This report will cover therefore as far as the work of Director is concerned, only the last four months, but a full report will be given of the work of the Society and of its collections during the year just closed.

As your President for a period of six years, and earlier as Secretary of the Society for a period of thirteen years, I have constantly felt the need of having someone to devote his whole time to the Society's work, one who would be not only interested but willing to make the necessary personal sacrifices in order to place the Society actively before the eyes of the public, not only here, but before all those interested in the fields of research which our organization is intended to cover, little thinking the time would ever come when I could personally devote all my time to the work. Last January when you made it possible for me to do this I can assure you it was with a deep sense of the responsibilities resting upon me that I took up the work, realizing that it meant constant, active pushing, unlimited by any set working hours in order to get our work carefully organized and all our activities well rounded out.

In the four months passed much has been accomplished but still it looks so very small when one sees on all sides so much to be done, not only in the cataloguing and caring for the material we now have, but the filling

in of gaps and the gathering and preserving of material that is constantly in danger of being destroyed. No one will be able to compute the amount of valuable material destroyed in the late flood in this State. In my collecting of the last few years I can recall a number of places, where I obtained valuable items, which during the flood have been completely submerged in water and mud, and their contents lost to the world. How many similar places have been destroyed where owing to limited time from an active business and from lack of means I could not visit, no one can estimate, yet we are thankful for what we have.

May I here express my personal feelings of appreciation for the deep interest our President, Mr. Wm. P. Palmer, has shown in the work, and the cordial assistance he has always been ready to give, even during the hours when the immense business activities over which he presides, have claimed so much of his strength and attention. Deeply interested in all matters pertaining to history and historical research as I have always found him, it has been a positive delight to feel we have such a leader, yet as we speak of our gains in personal individual strength a sense of sadness comes over me as I think back over the years I have been connected with the Society, of our losses in the ranks of those who have stood by the work from year to year. During the year just closed we lost, on March 22d, 1913, one, who, for the last nine years held the office of Vice President, still earlier that of Trustee, and almost from the beginning of our organization was actively interested. I refer to the Honorable David Candee Baldwin of Elyria, a brother of our lamented President, Judge C. C. Baldwin. Mr. Baldwin was born in Elyria, Sept. 28, 1836,

and was the son of Seymour W. Baldwin and Mary Candee. His early education was received in the schools of Elyria and later in the East. On his return to Elyria he entered the firm of his father's, known as Baldwin-Laundon & Nelson, which firm was reorganized in 1872 as the firm of D. C. Baldwin & Co. Mr. Baldwin served as a Lieutenant in an Ohio regiment in the hundred days' service. Later he served his district as a member of the Ohio Legislature. Like his brother, he was an ardent archaeologist and the collections of our Society are rich in the items which were gathered as a result of his untiring zeal and at great personal expense, but it was not only in the matter of collections that he was generous to this organization for he was also a very liberal donor to our building fund and for a number of years to the regular expenses of the Society. I wish carefully prepared biographical sketches of Mr. Baldwin and a number of others who have passed away during the last few years, might be made and issued as a volume of obituaries.

On May 18, 1912, Mr. Albion Morris Dyer, who was a life member of the Society and held the position of Curator from 1907, was taken away after a sickness of some weeks. It was with deep regret that I was away at the time. Mr. Dyer was deeply interested in the work of the Society and as far as his strength would permit, he gave freely and gratuitously of his time to the work. A more fitting tribute than I can give in space allotted in an annual report, should be given to these men whose hearts' interest rested in this Society and who have contributed much to its success.

Another one of our prominent Western Reserve men passed away March 23d, 1913, almost at the same

time as the death of Mr. Baldwin, namely, Mr. Wm. N. Gates of Elyria. Mr. Gates only a few days before his sudden death had talked over the prospects of our work, manifesting great interest in it and promising to take hold and help push it. Mr. Gates was most prominent in the affairs of Elyria and foremost in all public spirited movements. He was born Oct. 17, 1857. His father was Nahum Gates, an early pioneer of Elyria.

Trips.

During the four months of my directorship, only two or three trips have been made in an effort to increase our collections, although these must be followed up carefully in the future. Active preparations, however, must be made in each case before the trip. Lists must be made of items that we are short of and that we are likely to run across on these excursions. The first trip was made through Columbus, Granville and Newark. This trip brought a good mass of material pertaining to Ohio and largely to our Ohio colleges. The other, a longer trip, covering some eight or ten days, embraced Richmond, Va., Washington, D. C., Frankfort and Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati. This trip I consider one of the most profitable to the Society that I ever made. By appointment I met our President, Mr. Palmer, in Richmond, where we spent one day together, he being compelled to return to Hot Springs that evening, I remaining until the next afternoon. We visited in person the Virginia Historical Society, the Confederate Museum, the State Library and the Valentine Museum. At each of the first three we established an exchange basis for all publications. The ladies in charge of the Confederate Museum have sent us a complete set of their annual proceedings. Dr. McIlwaine of the

State Library of Virginia has presented us with a set of the valuable reprint of the journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia. This magnificent work not yet completed, is being published at \$10.00 per volume. Ten volumes are ready and have been received. Also from the same source a file of their publications and a number of books from their duplicates, were received on exchange. Mr. Stannard of the Virginia Historical Society has placed, as a result of this visit, our name on their exchange list and we will get the balance of their valuable collections. The visit, we feel not only for the present but for the future, will be of the greatest value to the Society. From Richmond I went to Washington, spending several days in the Library of Congress. You recall possibly, that at the last meeting of our Society, I mentioned getting a file of the National Intelligencer. This file had not been collated at the time of receipt, but I was told when it came, that the Library of Congress had some duplicates which could be obtained. In the first place, the file had to be collated which was a long, tiresome job as it covered in the tri-weekly edition years 1800 to 1852 and the daily edition from 1813 to 1870. When this was done I found we lacked about 2500 numbers. By working steadily three days in the Library of Congress I was able to get nearly every number excepting the part of one year possibly, giving us a most valuable file covering the history of our country from 1800 through three important war periods with the stirring and interesting events before and after each of these periods and it being of still greater interest since it was published at the seat of our National Government and was recognized for years as the official organ of the Government. In addition to this, the Library of Congress, through the courtesy of Mr. Put-

nam, the Librarian, has sent us 21 volumes of the reprint, of the original manuscript volumes of the journals of Congress which are in their collection. The balance will follow as issued. A number of rare items on George Washington, as well as a large number of other valuable items, making a total of 270 volumes, 498 pamphlets, and over 2000 numbers of newspapers were obtained at this time. A visit was also made to the War Department, to the Superintendent of Documents, and to the State Department. We have received a number of valuable items on the Civil War period and also of the early congresses from these sources. At Frankfort visits were made to the State Library and while there, arrangements were made for the exchange of duplicates. Also I visited the Kentucky Historical Society, but failed to see the ladies in charge. From Frankfort we have received a gift of some 25 or 30 volumes of the Civil War reports of Adjutant Generals from the different states, also rosters of the Kentucky soldiers in the Mexican War, War of 1812 and Civil War.

National and State Documents.

Many valuable Ohio documents have been added during the year to our already large collection. A bound volume of documents of Ohio for 1834 and '35 was picked up by your director on one of his trips which is the only one for those years that he knows of being in existence. As a matter of fact any Ohio documents back of 1836 are very desirable for our collection. In our file of United States documents, known as the "Sheep Set," covering the publications from the beginning of the 15th Congress down, we lack some 15 numbers only, giving us perhaps as complete a collection

as will be found in any library outside of the Library of Congress.

Of the original documents of the first 14 Congresses we are adding to our collection from time to time.

Publications.

During the year the librarian has prepared a little brochure on Commodore Perry which has been received very favorably. There has also been issued a series of four post-cards commemorating the battle of Lake Erie. Copies of the brochure were mailed to all the Trustees and Members of the Society.

With a deep realization that if the work of and interest in the Society are to be maintained we must resume active publication. Accordingly, arrangements have been made to issue as near as possible to Sept. 1st, a publication on the war of 1812 from the original material in our possession. Prof. E. J. Benton of the Western Reserve University has kindly consented to edit this for us. About Jan. 1st, next, the committee on publication hopes to issue a second tract. By means of these we hope to establish exchanges for future publications with a number of our learned Societies, and to repay in some part, valuable gifts already received from many.

Needs.

A word as to our needs. I will only mention a few of the ones most pressing. Outside of that of a permanent endowment, the one that is hampering our work more than any other is, the want of new stacks for shelving our books. This can be overcome temporarily by flooring over the "well hole" on the third floor and erecting stacks there. Still more room may be gained by

removing the seats on the third floor and stacking that space. Something must be done to accommodate our collection, but will you excuse me if I speak plainly on this subject? I used the word a moment ago "temporarily" and I would like to underscore this word. Our building, as often the remark has been made, was built without due consideration for the growth and future of this work. It was built more with the idea of accommodating our museum with a small collection of books than with an idea of making it a library worthy to be classed with the other historical Libraries of this country. The whole present condition handicaps greatly the work of the library. If this collection is to be made valuable as reference material, we must provide suitable place for workers with convenient surroundings. The only place we have at present for those consulting the library to work, is a small table in the genealogical room. This, I have often seen so crowded with workers that they are constantly in each other's way. It should be so arranged that the building, as far as the library is concerned, might be open some evenings, as many who would consult it can not do it day times. It would also be greatly appreciated by the public, if the museum could be open Sunday afternoon. This could be arranged better if the entire building and collection of books were not exposed at the same time.

Increasing Our Collections.

It is true we have been very fortunate in picking up much valuable material of late without a great outlay of expense. This can be continued to some extent. We hope to perfect arrangements so that we may exchange our duplicates for other books needed, but there

yet remains the need of a fund for purchasing items that can not be procured for our library by the above channels. I have checked up very carefully Thompson's bibliography of Ohio and have a list of items lacking in our library. These should be obtained in whatever way possible. If the members of our Board and Society who are amply able, would take up some one particular line of collecting for the library, which could be placed as a collection in the name of the one giving, it would not only aid us greatly but also give the one collecting, a great deal of pleasure and they would soon become deeply interested in the work. I have in mind now, a most interesting collection to follow up, and that is, the works of Jonathan Carver, in the various editions in which they have been published, I believe some 30 odd editions are known. No one library has a complete set of them.

This would be an extremely interesting and valuable collection to form. We have already some notable collections that have been brought together in this way, such as the King collection on Costumes, the White collection on Arctic Exploration, and the unequalled collection of Mr. Palmer, our President, on the Civil War and others that I might mention. A great need is constantly felt for new books in our genealogical department. What better way of perpetuating one's name, than to form a collection along this line? I would like to see someone interested in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and other eastern states. Virginia, Kentucky, and other states of the south. Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, the states outside of Ohio in the old Northwest. Each state having some one interested in increasing the collections pertaining to its history. There is a crying need for a patron for the war of 1812 items, also

one for the Mexican war and the Revolutionary war. Another need and a very pressing one is that of binding.

We have quantities of serials that are being injured in handling, which should be bound. Our newspapers as they are completed from year to year, should go at once to the bindery before any are destroyed or lost. If we should get a new addition to our building, it would be well to provide a room for binding, mounting, and mending.

There is a chance for all to take hold of the work. Those who are not able to take the larger items, can take something smaller, and each year feel that they are helping to round out our collection and make our Society the mecca for students from all over the country. Is it not worth while to place this, the sixth city, in the foremost ranks of the country, not only in its business relations, but for those things that stand for the broadest culture? There have been vast steps taken in the progress of the Historical Societies of the country within the last few years. New York, Boston, Worcester, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, all have magnificent, large commodious structures and all mentioned have ample endowments. St. Louis has just erected a \$500,000 building for its historical collections. Worcester has a new building, and an endowment of some \$350,000. New York has an endowment, a recent gift of \$250,000 increasing it to ample size. I have only mentioned a few of the societies. There are others. Should not Cleveland with a collection in its line, worthy of comparison with any in the country, see that the work is not hampered by lack of funds and interest?

Library.

The work of the Reference Department and that of the cataloguing have been more closely allied, than they would be if the cataloguing was up to date. We have an effective organization of willing workers, all deeply interested in the work of the Society. Miss Ward, being at the head of the reorganization and Miss Claflin at the head of the cataloguing. The statistics for the library and the catalogue work are drawn from the monthly and yearly reports to the director from the heads of these departments of the work accomplished under their supervision. Miss Tiffany has been a valuable assistant to both departments and has been doing some special bibliographical work on her own time in connection with the White collection of arctic books, which is hoped we will be able to use in published form some time in the near future. It would be of special value if a small series of booklets covering some of our more distinct collections could be issued from time to time. The accession books of the Society as near as we can estimate at the present time represent a total number of bound volumes and newspapers in the library as 31,760. The statistics for the general library for the year stand as follows:

Building open	306 days
Donations from	347 sources
Number of volumes accessioned	1,720
Number of pamphlets accessioned.....	2,250
Number of manuscripts accessioned.....	16
Bound volumes withdrawn	467
Pamphlets withdrawn	56
Last number bound volumes accessioned.....	31,760
Last number pamphlets accessioned.....	6,700
Last number manuscripts accessioned.....	76
Number duplicates compared and certified.....	4,918

Total duplicates certified to date.....	6,257
Number Gaylord binders put on.....	2,579
Total number binders put on.....	5,299

Accession Records from Accession Books Numerically by Sources.

	Deposit	Exchange	Gift	Purchase	Unknown
Bound volumes	14	259	1034	57	356
Pamphlets ...	1	52	723	16	1457
Manuscripts ..	1		9		6
Totals for the year—Bound volumes.....					1720
Pamphlets					2250
Manuscripts					16

The special reference work in the past year has been done in connection with the Anniversary of the War of 1812 and the coming Perry Centennial Celebration. Much of the material on the war of 1812 has been gathered together in a case by itself and free access to it has been offered the citizens of Cleveland. Many letters have been written and several exchanges have resulted.

Cataloguing Department.

Statistics for the year ending Apr. 30, 1913.

Total for one year.

Total number <i>titles</i> catalogued May 1, 1912—Apr. 30, 1913	Total Apr. 30, 1913
	9209
Bound volumes catalogued (Library Congress printed cards)	1649
Bound volumes catalogued (not L. C. Titles) ..	622
Total bound volumes catalogued.....	2271
Pamphlets catalogued (L. C. Titles).....	639
Pamphlets catalogued (not L. C. Titles).....	757
Total pamphlets catalogued.....	1396
Manuscript volumes catalogued.....	0
Total books, pamphlets, manuscripts.....	3667
Cards prepared for catalog (L. C. printed)...	5959
Cards prepared for catalog (typewritten).....	5743
Total cards prepared for catalog.....	11702
Extra author cards sent to Clev. Pub. Lib.	
Cleveland Public Library cards (L. C.).....	1214
Cleveland Public Library cards (typewritten) ..	1000
Total Cleveland Public Library cards.....	2214
Whole number of "Reserve" volumes and pamphlets to date,	723

Newspapers Received Regularly.

Akron Times	Hubbard Enterprise
Akron Beacon Journal	Huron County News (Norwalk)
Andover Citizen	Independent (Willoughby)
Barberton Leader	Independent Press (Wakeman)
Barberton News	Jefferson Gazette
Bellevue Gazette	Jewish Review and Observer
Berlin Call	Jewish Independent
Catholic Universe	Journal and Messenger (Cincinnati)
Chagrin Falls Exponent	Kent Courier
Chicago (O) Times	La Voce del Popolo Italiano (Cleveland)
Cleveland Plain Dealer	Medina Co. Gazette
Cleveland Enterprise	Monroeville Spectator
Cleveland Leader	News Letter (Orwell)
Cleveland Citizen	Norwalk Experiment
Cleveland Federationist	Oberlin News
Cleveland Socialist	Painesville Telegraph
Cleveland News	Portage County Democrat
Cleveland Press	Ravenna Republican
(Cleveland) Solidarity	Sandusky Register
Cuyahoga Falls Reporter	Sebring Times
Cleveland Town Topics	Solidarity
Collinwood Citizen	Sandusky Star-Journal
Democratic Standard (Ashtabula)	Seville Weekly Times
Die Neue Heimat (Cleveland)	Warren Daily Tribune
Elyria Telegram	Western Reserve Chronicle (Warren)
Garrettsville Journal	Western Reserve Times (Middlefield)
Geauga County Record (Chardon)	Waechter Und Anzeiger
Geauga Republican (Chardon)	Wadsworth Banner Press
Granville Times	Wellington Enterprise
The Gazette	Western Reserve Democrat (Warren)
Geauga Leader (Burton)	Youngstown Vindicator
Geneva Free Press Times	
Gospel Herald	
Home Weekly (Xenia)	
Hudson Independent	

Tentative list of magazines currently received in the Western Reserve Historical Society Library.

This list does not include annuals or government documents.

American antiquarian and Oriental journal.

American antiquarian society. Proceedings.

American historical review.

American political science review.

American searchlight.

American society for judicial settlement of international disputes. Judicial settlement of international disputes.

Annals of Iowa.

Association for international conciliation. American branch. International conciliation.

Association for international conciliation. American branch. Monthly bulletin.

Barometer.

Boston public library bulletin.

Case tech.

Chrestinul.

Church life.

Cleveland athletic club journal.

Cleveland Elks journal.

Cleveland engineering society. Journal.

Cleveland medical journal.

Cleveland motorist.

Cleveland. Public library. Open shelf.

Cleveland Sunday school megaphone.

Cleveland town topics.

Cincinnati. University. Record.

Colorado. University. Studies.

Daughters of the American revolution magazine.

Devon and Cornwall record society.

Dial.

Epworth outlook.

Essex institute. Historical collections.

Federated churches of Cleveland.

Financial review.

Harper's monthly magazine.

Hartford seminary record.

Harvard graduates' magazine.

Historical and philosophical society of Ohio. Quarterly.

Humane society bulletin. Cleveland.

Illinois. University. Studies in the social sciences.

Illinois state historical society. Journal.

Jewish orphan asylum magazine.

Lake Erie record.

Library journal.

Missouri historical review.

Nation.

New England historical and genealogical register.

New York genealogical and biographical record.

New York (City). Public library. Bulletin.

North Carolina. University. James Sprunt historical publications.

The Numismatist.

Ohio. State university. Bulletin.

Ohio archaeological and historical quarterly.

Ohio state lantern.

Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly.

Oregon historical society. Quarterly.

Outlook.

Pennsylvania magazine of history and biography.

Philippine library bulletin.

Pittsburgh. Public library. Monthly bulletin.

Public health nurse quarterly.

Public libraries.

Publishers weekly.

Records of the past.

Reserve Weekly.

Science.

Scribner's magazine.

Southwestern historical quarterly.

Thrift.

Trinity Baptist herald.

The Trooper.

Virginia. State library. Bulletin.

Washington historical quarterly.

Western Reserve University Bulletin.

William and Mary college quarterly historical magazine.

Wooltex news.

World's work.

Treasurer's Report

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A. S. Chisholm, Treas.

May 1, 1912.	Cash on hand.....	2,295.61	
	Subscriptions May 1, 1912, to		
	April 30, 1913.....	5,165.00	
	Miscellaneous receipts	53.26	
	Payments on old subscriptions.	1,250.00	
	Interest on Bank Bal.....	18.49	8,782.36

Disbursements

May 1, 1912.	to April 30, 1913.....	6,463.59	
	Audited Vouchers paid May 1,		
	1913	923.50	7,387.09

Balance

Apr. 30, 1913.	Bank Balance	2,320.82	
	less check May 1, 1912 (not in)	2.05	2,318.77
	Receipts to April 30, 1913....	8,782.36	
	Expenses to April 30, 1913....	6,463.59	
	Balance		2,318.77
May 1, 1913.	There were subscriptions unpaid		
	amounting to	3,600.00	
	Since paid	1,900.00	
	Balance unpaid	1,700.00	

Part II

Western Reserve Historical Society

Northern Ohio During the War of 1812

**Letters and Papers in Western Reserve
Historical Library**

Introduction by

ELBERT JAY BENTON, Ph. D.

Professor of History in Western Reserve University

INTRODUCTION.

President Madison was a man of peace and very reluctantly assumed the role of leader in a war with Great Britain. In his message to Congress, June 1, 1812, he gave as his reasons for advising this resort to force the practices of the British authorities. These were comprehended under the charges that the authorities were (1) searching American ships in American harbors and on the high seas, (2) impressing citizens into the British naval service, and (3) interfering with the rights of American merchants as neutrals. His only reference to the interests of the West was a brief intimation that British influences were responsible for the Indian attacks on the frontier during 1811 and 1812.

The war was thus begun in the name of commercial rights. It is, however, a well known fact that the New England states, the principal commercial states of the Union, were strongly opposed to the war. They did as much as they well could to prevent its success. It seemed at one time that they were about to secede because of the war. The southern states were, on the other hand, not commercial states and had little to gain by a war for commercial rights. The older statesmen of the Jefferson school had steadfastly resisted war with Great Britain through many years, even when the causes for one were much stronger than existed in 1812. The President's party yielded to the demands of the West. The Congressmen from this section, called the "War-Hawks" at the time, represented the optimistic, self-reliant, "afraid-of-nobody" spirit of the frontier. They included in their number not only the representa-

tives from the three western states in the Union of the time—Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee—but also a great many from the western counties of the old states. The strongest sentiment for war prevailed west of the Allegheny mountains. The entire region was practically unanimous for a vigorous, aggressive war, one which should conquer and annex new territories.

The cause of the western attitude was plainly not so much concern for commercial rights and seamen's freedom as for local security and space for expansion. The conflict with Tecumseh and his Indian confederacy in the Wabash Valley in 1811 prepared the way for this demand for a larger war. Annual Indian depredations occurred on the frontier. Early in 1812 the settlers in many places were forced to abandon their farms and to seek refuge within the nearest forts. It was merely another location of the long struggle between the Indian and the English race for the possession of the continent. The frontiersmen believed that the British authorities in Canada instigated the Indian raids for selfish purposes, just as a century earlier their forefathers, living on the frontier, were convinced that the French were behind the Indian wars. The western settlers in each case looked upon the expulsion first of the French and then of the British authorities as essential to peace on the frontier. The frontiersman in American History has been by instinct an expansionist. In 1812 he was fighting first for the possession of the Wabash Valley and less definitely for a larger Northwest. Those who supported the war in the East undoubtedly had in mind the commercial rights of the nation; those in the West sought the usual western prize—a new territory. According to this view the westward movement was the

vital force driving the nation into a war with Great Britain.

War was declared against Great Britain June 18, 1812. News soon reached the United States that Great Britain had finally removed one of the chief causes of the war by the repeal of the Orders in Council. Moreover, a war at that time against Great Britain was equivalent to an alliance with Napoleon Bonaparte, aiding him to fasten his system upon Europe. The ideals of Bonaparte and the frontiersmen in America were antipodal. Nevertheless the war went on. The forces driving the United States into the struggle knew little of the meaning of Bonaparte's career in Europe and the effect of the ultimate triumph. They were in no way concerned about the consequences of their action beyond the limits of their own continent.

The war-makers in the United States planned from the first to make the war one for the conquest of Canada. Henry Clay aroused his followers with the declaration that "the conquest of Canada is in your power." "I trust I shall not be deemed presumptuous when I state that I verily believe that the militia of Kentucky are alone competent to place Montreal and Upper Canada at your feet." (Foot note—Annals of Cong. 11 Cong. 1 sess. 580.) A blissful ignorance of the difficulties of an aggressive campaign on the frontiers and of the attitude Canada would take prevailed. The nation nonchalantly announced its plan, and started about its execution with a conceit and want of preparation almost unbelievable. Henry Dearborn, appointed senior major-general, planned the campaign for 1812. The main attack on Canada was to be by the route leading from the Hudson River past lakes George and Champlain to Montreal. Three other invasions, one from Sackett's

Harbor, another from Niagara, and a third from Detroit were to co-operate with the main attack. The government aimed by these expeditions at the capture of Malden at the western end of Lake Erie, Niagara at the eastern end, Kingston and Montreal on the St. Lawrence River. It evidently believed that such successes would squeeze the British forces out of Canada.

General William Hull, governor of Michigan Territory, was entrusted with the command of the expedition on the farther west. He led an army composed chiefly of Ohio militia from Dayton to Detroit. He reached the latter place in July, 1812, and soon thereafter advanced into Canada to the siege of Malden. The natural difficulties of his task were enormous.

He was separated from his source of supplies and re-enforcements more than two hundred miles. A wilderness almost impassable for supply trains except under the most favorable conditions intervened. Lake Erie was under control of the British. His position, even after he had withdrawn to Detroit, was untenable, and yet his officers refused to abandon the enterprise. News that the British had captured Mackinaw, July 17, and the report that a horde of hostile savages was gathering in his rear seemed to paralyze Hull instead of stirring him to the utmost activity. Nothing but almost miraculous energy and military cunning could have saved him. On August 15 he surrendered. His loss was the first large sacrifice from the haste and want of careful preparation of those waging the war.

On the same day that Hull surrendered at Detroit, the little garrison at Fort Dearborn (Chicago) yielded to an overwhelming Indian force. The fort was burned and the garrison massacred. The war had begun, but by it the United States had already lost an army, a

fortified town and a territory. Michigan territory and the Great Lakes passed completely under British authority. The line of the Wabash and the Maumee rivers became the northwestern boundary of the territory the United States occupied. With the utmost difficulty the scattered garrisons on the Wabash and Maumee frontier held their positions against the Indian attacks. Farms in the region were laid waste, and the inhabitants murdered. The frontiersmen organized themselves into vigilant committees and military companies in order to protect the borders until a new army could be organized and led forward.

At this crisis General William H. Harrison, popular in the West for his success in the Indian wars, was placed in command of the army of the Northwest. The ardor of the West was not abated. The war had become a war of defense. The call for a western army of 10,000 men brought forward 15,000 volunteers. Harrison advanced his army as it was gathered from the various parts of the western states in three divisions, besides sending a small force to the relief of the garrisons in the Wabash Valley. The Virginia and Pennsylvania troops, chiefly the militia from the western counties, crossed Ohio by way of Wooster and Upper Sandusky on their way to an appointed rendezvous at the rapids a few miles above the mouth of the Maumee River.

A middle column, composed chiefly of the Ohio militia, marched from Urbana by Fort McArthur towards the rapids. The regular troops and the Kentucky volunteers passed down the Auglaize and Maumee rivers from St. Marys and Defiance. General Harrison's army advanced slowly during the fall and winter of 1812 and 1813. It was obliged to cut its own

roads and build causeways through the forests and swamps in northwestern Ohio. It was obliged to carry its own supplies and munitions of war. The men were without tents and an adequate quantity of blankets. Their clothing soon wore out, and a new supply could not be secured. They were obliged to fall back on the hides of their cattle and the furs of wild animals.

On January 22, 1813, an advance body of about 900 men under the command of General Winchester was attacked at Frenchtown on the Raisin River by the British and their Indian allies. About four hundred of Winchester's men were killed in battle or massacred by the Indians, and the remainder were taken prisoners. About forty escaped. The loss of this force and the expiration of the terms of enlistment of the militia nearly wiped out Harrison's army. In February, 1813, it was necessary to start for the third time in gathering a northwestern army and putting it in condition to advance into the lost territory. The victory of Perry on Lake Erie, September 10, 1813, formed a turning point in the war, so far as the Northwest was concerned. The authority that controlled Lake Erie possessed the great highway in the western campaign. The British immediately withdrew from Detroit and Malden. General Harrison occupied Detroit, but never made any progress with the conquest of Canada, any more than did the leaders of the other expeditions. The war closed a little more than a year later with the United States in control of the territory it had lost during the first months of the war. During the conflict the Indian resistance to the western movement of population had been thoroughly broken. This war on the western frontier against the Indians and some 700 or 800 British soldiers cost the United States \$5,000,000, the efforts of alto-

gether about 20,000 men, and a great loss of property and life.

The following letters and papers, reprinted from the collections of the Western Reserve Historical Society, describe some phases of the conditions in northern Ohio during these campaigns, the difficulties of the undertaking, and the attitude of the people toward it. Those published here should be supplemented by others published in earlier tracts of the Society. Tract Number 1 contains an account of the battle and massacre at Frenchtown by one of the few survivors; Tract Number 3 contains nine letters from the Whittlesey papers and correspondence on the early months of the war; Tract Number 7, miscellaneous letters of progress of the officers in charge of the assembling militia in northern Ohio in September, 1812; Tract Number 12, further selections from the papers and letters of Elisha Whittlesey regarding the difficulties of organization and advance of the army; Tracts Number 15 and Number 17, selections from the correspondence of Major Tod, chiefly concerned with recruiting soldiers for the western armies; Tract Number 18, miscellaneous correspondence of officers in command of the troops in northern Ohio; Tract Number 19, biographies of the officers in command of the troops of northern Ohio, and letters from Major Tod's correspondence for 1813, chiefly concerned with recruiting and the western mail service; Tract Number 22, an account of the Battle of Frenchtown; Tract Number 23, an account of the sortie at Fort Meigs; Tract Number 26, an account of the surrender of Hull at Detroit, and letters regarding the conditions in the West in September and October, 1812; Tract Number 51, Whittlesey's History of General Wadsworth's Division of Harrison's Army, and several letters

on progress of the army's advance; Tract Number 72, an account of the Battle of the Peninsula, near Sandusky, September 29, 1812.

Several letters from Samuel Church of Connecticut to his brother in Ohio are included in this collection because they contrast the attitude of New England and the West toward the war. The Western Reserve Historical Society possesses a complete file of the *Trump of Fame* for the period of the war. It was published at Warren, and was the only newspaper of The Western Reserve during the war of 1812, 1813 and 1814. It constitutes one of the valuable sources of information on this subject. A very few notes on the war were taken from it have been reprinted because they illustrate phases not touched by the letters. The Society possesses a great many papers and letters bearing upon the war which have not been published. Those of General Elijah Wadsworth, who was appointed Major General and placed in command of the Fourth Division; and of Elisha Whittlesey, Brigade Major in the western army, aid to Gen. Wadsworth, and part of the time aid and private secretary to General Harrison, and those of Simon Perkins, Brigadier General, and other collections (for list of which see tract number 51, page 1 of the Society's Publications) record in detail the organization and advance of their parts of the western army during 1812 and 1813. Only a small part, though probably the more interesting part, of these letters and papers and only a few of the large number of official rosters in the Society's possession have yet been published.

The war as far as Ohio was concerned came to an end in 1813.

Marietta April 6th, 1812.

GENERAL ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

Sir:—The President of the United States has called on me to raise immediately 1,200 Men, Volunteers, under the act authorizing the President of the United States to accept and organize Certain Volunteers Corps, Copies of which act I transmit you. The object of raising the volunteers is to march to Detroit. You will readily perceive that should the British get possession of that place, that the Indians on both sides of the Lakes might join them and the frontiers of Ohio, be harrassed by the murderous Incursions of numerous Savages.

In the event of a war, to prevent such disastrous consequences—and with a view to ulterior measures, I conceive the President's requisition to have been made.

You are therefore directed without delay to raise Three Companies of men under the aforesaid Act, either by the Tenders of service of Companies—or under the 39th Section of the Law of Ohio "For disciplining the Militia."

I trust that you will use every exertion to raise the Companies—it is important that no delay be made.

Please write, and direct to me at Chillicothe.

I am Sir, Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Svt.

R. J. MEIGS, GOV. OF OHIO.

P. S.—I expect there will be no doubt but that the volunteers may be raised—if not, a draft *must* take place. Please direct your letters to Chillicothe. R. J. Meigs.

STATE OF OHIO—ADJUTANT GENL.'S OFFICE

JUNE 1812

I am directed by the Commander in Chief to call on the Major Generals of the Respective Divisions, to take effectual measures, to organize, Arm and equip according to law, and hold in readiness to march at a moment's warning their proportion of five thousand Militia, Officers included, by virtue of a requisition of the President of the United States, and an Act of Congress passed the 10th April last, Entitled, "An Act to Authorise a Detachment from the Militia of the United States."

This therefore is to require of you to take effectual measures for having Nine hundred and seventy nine of the Militia of your Division (being your quota) Viz.: two Lt. Colls., 4 Majors, 14 Captains, 14 Lieutenants, 14 Ensigns, and Nine hundred and thirty two Non Commisd. Officers, Musitians and privates, Detached and duly Organized, in Company, Battallions and Regiments within the shortest period that Circumstances will permit, and as nearly as possible in the following proportions of Artillery Cavalry and Infantry, Viz.: Our twentieth part of Artillery, our twentieth part of Cavalry and the residue Infantry, there will however be no Objection on the part of the Commander in Chief of the admission of a proportion of Riflemen duly organized in distinct Corps.

Each Corps should be properly Armed and equipped for actual service.

When the Detachments and organization shall have been effected, the respective Corps will be exercised under the Officers set over them—but will not remain embodied or be considered as in actual service, until by subsequent orders, they shall be directed to take

the field.—You will please to direct that correct number Rolls, and Inspection returns be made of the several Corps, and that copies thereof be sent to this Office, as early as possible.

The Commander in Chief relies with Confidence upon the exertions of every Officer—to promote the Organization—and trusts that the *second* Army of Ohio, will, (if occasion should call) manifest the same Zeal, which has animated the *first* now on the shores of the Lake—Arms and Accoutrements will be immediately distributed, from the Arsenal at Newport and are now on the Ohio.

The Ulterior Organization of Brigades and Divisions will be directed so soon as the returns above mentioned shall have been made to the Adj. Genls. Office.
Major Genl. Elijah Wadsworth,

Commandt. 4th Division O. M.

By order of the Commanders in Chief.

W. HORN, Adj. Genl.

SALISBURY [Conn.,] July 4th 1812.

Dear Brother.

Yours of the 14 June is before me. We have here no *particular news* of consequence to be relied on. The Declaration of War keeps open all ears for the tidings of blood. In this country War is quite unpopular tho the Federalists of information feel animated for an honorable issue. I did fear that every nerve of opposition and treason would be exerted to render abortive this measure of Patriotism, but I think the disposition is confined to the petulant and uninformed. Our Governor and Council are now convened on the constitutionality of placing the Militia under the immediate command

of Genl. Dearborn. Our Governor is a man of true patriotism. I am confident he will not hesitate in calling out the forces of the State.

Many are the Speculations on the termination of this War. My opinion is it will not continue longer than one year, my reasons are, that if the contest have that effect on the councils of Great Britain as to produce a change of ministry a speedy peace will be made on our terms; if not the unpopularity of the war will cause a change of administration here next March; when peace will be made on any terms. On the presidential election I can form no opinion. My own sentiments lead me to prefer Dewit Clinton. The election of this able and upright Magistrate would tend to cure those jealousies of Southern influence and preponderance and his commercial predilections will also cure the jealousies which now exist on that subject. I reverence and esteem Mr. Madison and approve his measures yet the quiet of the country in my opinion would be better secured by the election of a President from the northern States.

News of a local nature I have none. The Sickness in this town has abated and disappeared. Mother is not yet recovered entirely. Leman is at School on Sharon mountain. Mrs. Coffin wife of John C. Coffin was buried on Thursday. She died of a consumption. The Season is very wet and cold. Corn looks miserably; the English grain looks well. I hope you are not in danger from Indians or their friends and allies the Canadians. Write me without any delay and frequently.

Your brother,

SAMUEL.

[To] M Ensign Church
Canfield, O.

July 8, 1812.

WAR PREPARATIONS.

It appears by the returns of the War Office, as stated in the *Intelligencer*, that seventeen thousand men have inlisted. The number is rapidly increasing every day, and from what we have seen of the spirit of '75 on the Western frontier and in the middle states there is no doubt a sufficient number of Volunteers will turn out when called on to bear the American standard down the lakes to the mouth of the St. Lawrence, without a single man from New England. We trust some good will arise from the apparent apathy of this section of the union. Whenever government see fit to prepare for defensive or offensive operations on the ocean the eastern states will awake from their slumbers, betake themselves to their favorite element and bear a double portion of the burthens and the honors of effectual war.

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

CHILLICOTHE PATRIOTISM

Chillicothe, July 25.

Late on Saturday evening last an express arrived in town with a letter from Gen. Hull to Governor Meigs, stating that the army was very deficient in provisions, that Mr. Piatt was authorized to furnish a supply for two months, and that the communication must be preserved by the militia of this state or the army would perish for the want of provisions. The letter concludes with saying, 'we have the fullest confidence that you will do all in your power to prevent so distressing a calamity.'—A letter was, at the same time, received from the contractor, stating, that provisions were deposited at

Urbana, ready to be packed on horses, but that he should be obliged to wait for a convoy of troops to protect it, and open a new road, as the old one is almost impassable. At the time the above despatches were received, the Governor was at his residence in Marietta. The next morning (Sunday) they were opened by the secretary of state; and immediately on their contents being made known the drum beat to arms. It is with peculiar pleasure we record the patriotic spirit displayed by our citizens on the occasion. After marching through the streets a short time, between 60 and 70 volunteers stepped into the ranks at the call. No distinction of party or profession was known—the federalist, the republican, the farmer, the mechanic, the lawyer and the merchant indiscriminately determined to shoulder muskets, and brave every danger to relieve their fellow countrymen who are now in Canada.

On Monday morning the company paraded at the court house, when they elected Henry Brush, Captain, William Beach, Lieutenant, and John Stockton, Ensign, and then drew their arms. Being without uniform they instantly agreed upon a suitable one for the purpose, immediately purchased the stuff, and through the exertions of the ladies they were all completed before evening. In the meantime the rest of the citizens were not idle—moulds being first made, some were engaged in moulding bullets, some in moulding buck-shot, and some in making cartridges. Before evening, near 2000 cartridges, each containing a ball and three buck-shot, were made, and other necessities, such as provisions, canteens, knapsacks, blankets and other camp equipage provided, all at the expense of private individuals. Early the next morning they started for Urbana, accompanied by the citizens, in regular march,

a few miles out of town. Thus, in less than 24 hours, a large company of volunteers was raised, completely equiped, and on their march through a hostile and wilderness country. The zeal and promptitude displayed by our citizens on this occasion deserve the highest encomiums; altho' they did not illuminate, and disturb the peace of society by mobs and rejoicings when they received the Declaration of War; yet they have exhibited that true spirit of patriotism, which, when required, steps forth with alacrity, to defend her country's rights. It will be recollected this is the fourth company who have volunteered their services and are now in actual service, from this town and its vicinity—two of whom are now in Canada. Another company of mounted riflemen, from the vicinity of this place, met for the purpose of volunteering their services on the present occasion, had the Governor been here to accept them. Let each state follow the example of Ohio, especially Chillicothe and its vicinity, and the contest in which we are engaged will soon come to an honorable termination.

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

TO MEN OF PATRIOTISM, COURAGE AND ENTERPRISE.

August 12, 1812.

Every able-bodied man, from the age of 18 to 45 years, who shall be enlisted for the term of five years, will be paid a bounty of Sixteen Dollars—and whenever he shall have served the term for which he enlisted, and obtained an honorable discharge, stating that he had faithfully performed his duty whilst in service, he shall be allowed and paid, in addition to the aforesaid bounty, three months' pay, and One Hundred and Sixty Acres of Land; and in case he should be killed in action or

die in the service, his heirs and representatives will be entitled to the said three months' pay, and one hundred and sixty acres of land, to be designated, surveyed and laid off, at the public expense.

WILSON ELLIOT,
Capt. United States Army.

Warren, July 6, 1812. Place of Rendezvous,
Warren, Trumbull Co., Ohio.

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

CLEVELAND OHIO Aug 20th, 1812.

MAJ. GENL. WADSWORTH.

Sir We have just now received information by the express mail that Genl. Hull and his Army have surrendered prisoners of War at Detroit—which is taken This information we have from the Garison who retreated from River Raisin—which was summoned to surrender under a flag of truce from the Brittish—who stated that Hull and his army had surrendered—and had orders from Hull to surrender also. The Commander at River Raisin at first disbelieved the Communication—but his scout soon informed him that the Brittish were marching on in great force, he accordingly retreated. The express Mail was stopped by this information this side of Sandusky and Returned. The inhabitants are leaving Sanduskey, Huron &c. It is reported that the Brittish are on their march this way. How true these reports are we do not know. We are however determined to make a Stand here at all events. And in order to enable us to do this effectually and to prevent all inhabitants from leaving the Country, it is of the utmost importance that we should have all the assistance we can obtain immediately—of Men, Arms,

Ammunition, provisions, &c.—No time is to be lost—if we have any assistance it is necessary to have it immediately or it will do no good.

We are with the utmost respect

Dear Sir Yours &c.

NATHAN PERRY

HIRAM HANCHETT

A. KELLEY

A. W. WALWORTH

SAM WILLIAMSON

DANIEL MOSHER

ISAAC J. LACY

DYER SHEARMAN

D. C. HENDERSON

HARVEY MURRAY

LORENZO CARTER

SAML. JONES

DATUS KELLEY

BRIGADE ORDER.

SIR

Information is this moment received by the express mail carrier that the town of Detroit is taken by the British troops and Indians from Canada—also that the whole army of General Hull on our Northwestern frontier have been taken prisoners, that the Indians, &c have progressed as far as the Miami and are continuing their march this way.

To repel the enemy you are hereby ordered to detach one half of the effective men in your regiment with a suitable proportion of officers and that they be well equipped for the field, that they rendezvous somewhere within the limits of your regiment, at a time and place

to be appointed by you—Where you shall receive further orders—This duty is to be done with all possible dispatch—

Warren, August 22d, 1812.

SIMON PERKINS.

EXPRESS MAIL WAR OF 1812.

Leave Pittsburgh tuesday.....	11. A. M.
Arrive at Greensburgh	8. P. M.
Warren Wednesday	6. A. M.
Aurora "	1. P. M.
Cleveland	10. P. M.
Leave Cleveland	11. P. M.
Arrive at Miami Friday.....	1. P. M.

RETURNING.

Leave Miami Sunday.....	10. A. M.
Arrive at Cleveland Monday.....	12. Night
Leave Cleveland tuesday.....	1. A. M.
Arrive at Aurora "	10. A. M.
Warren tuesday.....	5. P. M.
Greensburgh Wednesday	3. A. M.
Pittsburgh "	1. P. M.

CLEVELAND 22d AUGUST 1812.

GEN. S. PURKINS, [PERKINS]

Sir:—We are at this place really in an alarming situation—We are informed and we believe correctly, that the British are in possession of Detroit, and that Gen. Hull and his whole army are prisoners of war—They are advancing rapidly towards this place—Last evening nine Boats reached the River Huron laden it

is stated with 300 regulars and 600 Indians. The settlements to west are all broken up—The poor defenceless inhabitants are arriving here allmost every hour, our situation is deplorable. Your good sence will dictate to you what we stand in need of therefore we shall expect your aid to the extent of your power—We are determined to make a stand at all events.

GAIUS PEASE *Brig. Maj.*

SAML. JONES *Major*

HIRAM HANCHETT

A. KELLEY

By Order { LORENZO CARTER
NATHAN PERRY

N. B. All troops in the towns thro which this express shall pass are requested to come immediately to our assistance whither in large or small numbers.

GEN PERKINS

SIR I left Cleaveland last eve at 12 o'clock it was said before I came away that the enemy were at Black River. Whether it can be depended on or not I do not know. I met Seymour Austin this morning at Day Light North part of Huron he was on the horse he started with. Cleaveland is allmost dessolate of women and children they are retreating by grand River this way.

I went to Cleaveland in 7 hours and Returned in 12.

Yours, &c.,

C. BENEDICT. (?)

23 August [1812]

People of Hudson and all others it may concern. The fears of Cleaveland are all hushed. We find that Indians that went into Sandusky bay and Huron River

were our own men part of Hulls army from Detroit. Detroit has fell by the villainy of Hull the men are returning. The express charged with the armistice from the governor of Canada and Genl. Dearborn goes in this morning; we consequently expect no further hostilities at present.

AUGUSTUS GILBERT

LORENZO CARTER

Committee of safety.

Cleaveland, August 23, 1812.

United States to Owen Brown and David Hudson Dr.

Augt.	26	To 4 Hinsdale Axes at 2.75.....	\$11-0—
1812		To serving as appraiser of property part of a day.....	1-0—
	27	To 1-2 day spent in procuring horses for ex- presses	0.50
Sept.	1	To horse to Cleveland for express.....	1 50
		To self and horse 1-2 day assisting getting on Ammunition Waggon and forage for team	1 50
	2	To keeping Express horse to hay and Oats in Stable at different times.....	1 0—
	9	To going to Portage with Genl. Wadsworth letter by his express order.....	1—
	30	To horse to Portage.....	0 44
		To procuring horses and saddles for Mr. Way to forward soldiers.....	0 75
		To Saddle to Huron and Damage done saddle	1 50
		To Certificate N. 30 in O. Browns favor..	5 25
Oct.	8	To do—do—N. 26.....	2 31
		To horse by O. Brown Express to Cleveland	1 50
		To do—do—Aurora.....	62 1-2
	29	To 1 day procuring linnen and forwarding it on to Huron for wounded.....	1-0-0
		To Mr. Way's' bill of forrage.....	1.44
		Acting Quarter Master.....	

Owen Brown

Allowed the within in David Hudson's account 3 Axes.....at 2.50	\$7.50
1 Day appraising property.....	1.00
1 Horse 3 days, on express.....	1.50
Forage for express horse 3 days.....	1.00
Express from Cleveland to Portage.....	0.75
Use of horse from Hudson to Portage.....	.40
	\$12.15

HUDSON 29th August, 1812

DEAR SIR —

As I am informed you have dismissed the one half of the Militia from Trumbull County—I have conversed with some of our principal men and they are all of the opinion that the same favor ought to be extended to the Militia of Portage County—by a judicious disposition of the companies retained under Capt. Lusk the inhabitants on this frontier feel relieved from a sense of danger—the panic has subsided—and a much smaller force would now answer the purpose, as a force to the westward is the main object—and as I understand there is a number of troops sent on to Huron. We do not conceive the danger to be sufficiently pressing to justify retaining all the Militia of this County in actual service—especially at a time like this, as our future harvest depends on the present seed time, which requires more help, for the old men and boys who are left behind can hardly do the other necessary labor without meddling with the preparation for sowing—were I at liberty to obtrude my opinion I would recommend it to you—Sir—gradually to discharge the Militia—say one half forthwith—and half the remainder, as soon as circumstances will justify—and so on—Unless You consider us in this respect, the evil of not sowing our wheat this season, will

be severely felt next—I trust, Dear Sir, You will feel the force of these remarks and dismiss the Militia as fast as the safety of the Country will admit—relying on your good sense and judgment in giving every reason its proper weight and with the best wishes for the welfare of the Country at large, I continue Yours sincerely

DAVID HUDSON.

Genl. Elijah Wadsworth.

CAMP AT CLEVELAND August 29th 1812.

I am as yet in excellent health. Yesterday one company of men crossed the Cuyahoga which will be followed by two others today and more tomorrow under the command of B. G. Simon Perkins. They will station themselves, in the most healthy situation somewhere near the Huron, for the purpose of allaying the fears of the few inhabitants who are remaining in that country and act as a corps of observation. The troops have not all of them arrived. Col. Hayes Regiment is expected today. Raynes tomorrow, together with, the detachment from Bealls and Millers Brigade. The encampment is about three quarters of a mile from Town pleasantly situated, near some of the finest springs you ever saw. About fifty hovels are already completed, and the necessary works progressing for the reception of the troops. It is very difficult to organize the Militia, in the encampment but like all other things of magnitude, may be in some measure, improved by time and a good share of patience. My time is very busily employed and not that time to communicate with you which I wish, and believe I shall have hereafter. I wish Mr. Boughton to see that the ground for wheat is well ploughed. There is not at present any danger apprehended.

My Love to all friends family connections, and the dear children.

Yours Affectionately

ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

Mrs. Mary Whittlesey.

BOARDMAN 31st August 1812.

MAJ. GENL. E. WADSWORTH

SIR:—Receiving information that no regular means are provided for the support of troops under your command and it is your calculation to make an encampment of some length of time Majr. Eliott or myself would be happy in furnishing you with sutch kinds of provision as you should want. Major Eliott has now a number of fat Cattle on hand which he will dispose of should you want otherwise will drive them over the mountains immediately. Mr. Tappan of Steubenville informed Major Eliott that on his arrival at Cleaveland woud converse with you on the appointment of a Contractor the bearer Mr. Kingsbury will bring back information should you wish to send and—had no other opportunity—should you appoint either of us as Contractor your orders shall be punctually attended to by Majr. Eliott or your humble Servt—

WILLIAM INGERSOL.

WAREN OHIO Sept. 2d A. D. 1812

SIR

We have been informed by Mr. Coulter and others to endeavor to effect a Sale of the powder Lead and flour purchased by the Citizens of the Town of Beaver for the purpose of supplying a corpse of volunteers that

marched from that Place on the 28th augst. for the Purpose of repelling if possible the Savages making encroachments on our Frontier—

The above Articles are stored in Waren in this State—The Citizens of Beaver would be verry desirous of selling them but would not be Willing to take Government for the pay. The powder can be had at Mr. Brooks and A. Bentley likewise the Lead and flour If individuals who—responsible will undertake the payment powder to be 87 1-2 cts per lb Lead 15 cts per lb Flour Superfine 7 dollars per barrel—

In haste We are Sir

Your Obdt. Humbl Servt.

J. R. SHANNON

JOHN McDANAGH

Major Genl. E. Wadsworth.

Sept. 2, 1812.

Our neighbors in Pennsylvania are on the alert; the militia are marching to the frontiers. We are informed, that a large force is assembled at Erie. It is said, that a number of volunteer corps from that state, began their march for Cleveland, but have returned, or are about to return, on learning that a sufficient number of men were assembled from this state, at that place, for the protection of our frontier.

(Since the above was in type we have been informed that those troops will march on to Cleveland.)

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

Sept. 2, 1812.

We observe a determined opposition to the measures of the general government in the executives of the states of Connecticut, and Massachusetts. They are determined, that the militia of these states shall bear no part in the burthen of the war. A word to the people of Connecticut, in their corporate capacity, and another to certain citizens of the states of Connecticut, and Massachusetts, in their individual capacities. At this moment while you refuse to call forth the militia to the protection of your frontier and your exclusive property, one half of the people of the northern section of the State of Ohio are encamped amid marshes, and in places pregnant with disease and death, most of them without a tent to shelter them from the storm, many of them without a blanket, on which to lay their weary limbs, for the protection of your property, from the fangs of certain good people.

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

NORTHERN CONFEDERACY.

Sept. 2, 1812.

Much has been said and written within a few years past, on the subject of a Northern Confederacy, having for its object, the separation of the states and an alliance with England. It did not require the evidence of Capt. Henry's disclosures, to convince those who have been acquainted with political characters and political movements in this quarter, that such conspiracy has been long since formed and still exists among us. Within a few months the evidence has been become too glaring, for any man to resist who is not willingly ignorant, or wilfully blind. The language of the anglo-federal papers,

and the proceedings of the house of representatives at their late session in Boston, have been such as to attract all eyes, and to make but one impression upon every part of the Union, that is not cursed with a double portion of British influence—Such as to draw the avowal from the N. York Evening Post the very last public journal (Messrs. Hanson & Wagner's excepted) from which frankness on this subject was to have been expected, that Massachusetts had declared openly for a separation of the states. These transactions and the lively sensation they have excited throughout the Union, are calculated to attach a peculiar interest to the proceedings at our late town meeting—and particularly to those sound, patriotic and truly Washingtonian sentiments which they have elicited from Mr. Dexter.

If it is asked, what is the number of conspirators against the union, these life-bound “advocates of the British cause in America”; and what is the danger to be apprehended from them?—The answer is; their number is small, though they have many tools which they manufacture with skill and wield with adroitness, but which, with all their adroitness, will finally cut their own fingers.

The danger (if it exists) arises not from the inherent strength they possess, but from the dissensions of the people, in reality American, and the folly and weakness of those who govern them. Let those who have the interest of our country at heart, to whatever party they belong, pursue a wise and steady course—and the enemies of our Union, meet when or where they may, under the pretense of “peacemakers” or any other plausible pretense whatever will find enough of our

friends, in the garrison to watch their movements and frustrate their designs. Yankee

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

[SALISBURY, CONN.,] September 4th 1812.

DEAR BROTHER,

Agonized by hope and fear concerning the fate of the Army under Gen. Hull I sit myself down to write away my trepidation. Yesterday an account in the Albany paper extracted from a Canada paper, brot us the unhappy news of Hulls defeat; with the federalists of the raving order it met with a very welcome reception; but with the Republicans it was evil tidings indeed. To day while all were mourning the fate of our brave Fellow Citizens, [news] papers from Hartford brought a circumstantial account of the Surrender of Fort Malden to Gen. Hull; with news thus contradictory, we know not what to think or believe, god grant the latter tidings to be true. But I fear not. If he is taken I cannot divine the cause, with no enemy in his rear, it appears to me impossible. When he marched into Canada I thot it unwise and imprudent, with so small a regular force, depending so entirely on militia impatient to return home, it was in my opinion folly in the extreme. But the folly and want of foresight of the government in not giving speedy notice of the Declaration of War is monstrous. I have long been convinced that the Madisonian administration is weak, too weak for war; yet honest. Whatever may be your opinion of De Witt Clinton it is a very general one here that he is the man who can save our honor; it is no objection that he is supported by Federalists, if he is not elected I fear for my

country; he is in favour of Commerce and a navy this is sufficient to descide my opinion in his favour. If Hull is taken I fear the Indians will be let loose among you. In this part of the Country the Fedralists use every effort to discourage enlistments, and take every opportunity to insult the troops and protect deserters. This week about 300 troops marched from Litchfield to Albany, on their way at Sheffield after encamping a night several of the Citizens attempted to insult them and to break thro the guards, in this attempt Col. Goodrich of Sheffield received a bayonet thro the arm and one other person had his head severely cut with a sword, a very great pity both wounds had not been mortal. Several of the citizens were kept under arrest thro the night and untill they promised to depart in peace. I do not know what scenes await us here the conduct of our governor and council in refusing to call out the Militia is monstrous and a part of the system of resistance to the general government, yet I imagine that our Fedralists durst not resist by force, tho they can count a majority at the elections; they certainly can not of fighting men 15,000 have subscribed in this state to papers most solemnly to support the government and if fedralists are pleased to swing their guns against this number we do not fear to meet them, with justice and our country on our side.

Father is very anxious concerning you, you do not write him frequently. His health is very good and nothing now disturbs the peace and happiness of his old age but his anxiety on your account. Do write him frequently. I hope if Hull is taken you will have the whole army of Dearborn to take his place. There are

about 4000 troops at Albany in good order and the number is daily encreasing we shall hear of warm work soon.

Yours,

SAML. CHURCH.

[To] Mr. Ensign Church
Canfield, Ohio.

HUDSON 4th Sept. 1812

GENL. ELIJAH WADSWORTH

I received your three lines Directed to me this Week on the first by your Son George. I Sold him Six Barrels Whiskey for you Which is ready as he and I agreed I have Been Trying to Get Some Cattle to Send on, to you on the Condition, We Delivered the Other, as you proposed. But the people in this Quarter appear Not to Be Willing to furnish any cattle on those terms they Fear there Will be delays in payment by goverment, and the prospect of Flour there Is poor, there is No Grain thrashed and they ask Six Dollars pr Barrel for Flour at the Mill in Tallmage Exclusive the Barrels,—and then I cannot get it Transported Short of two Dollars and fifty cents pr Barrel. You can Judge from these Statements that it is Difficult to Send on Supplyes from here, there is a Large Drove of Cattle Going On by the Bearer of this, and I hope you Can Get Sufficient Supplys Elsewhere. I Expect Mr. Dilling Ham has Drove on Some Beef by agreement With me, this from Yours Respectfully—

HEMAN OVIATT.

Head quarters Cleveland

Sept 9th 1812

GENL PERKINS

The Major General is apprehensive that the position you have chosen for your camp, on the lake shore is a dangerous one, you are therefore ordered to remove the main body of your troops to a distance of from eight to ten miles from the Lake either on the road to Mansfield or as near it as a good position, for water &c can be selected—you must build your block houses from twenty to 24 feet square of logs of tollerably large size and notched very close the lower story to have no window and but one door and the door of thick puncheons not penetrable by a musket ball strongly built and strongly barred—the second story must project at least three feet over the lower story on every side and both in the horizontal part of the projection and its sides must have numerous portholes, this second story may be covered with a common cabbिन roof and will be the magazine—such a block house if supplied with provisions and water and garisoned by 75 or 100 men will repel 1000 Indians, so soon as you can do it you are to build three or four such block houses on the road to Mansfield at not more than five miles distant from each other in situations secure of supplies of water and immediately as they are built place in them a supply of fire wood for 20 days and provisions for the garrison for the same length of time being carefull to renew the supplies so that they may be at all times provided for a seige, and garrison each with at least one company of men—Genl, Beall is ordered to build like block houses and garrison them to form a line with yours.

You are further ordered to report by the return of the express mail the whole force under your command stating from what Regiment they are drawn.

The express this evening from the war office gives assurance that we shall be armed and equipped forthwith by order, &c.

E[LIJAH] W[ADSWORTH]

GENL ELIJAH WADSWORTH

Sir, You will excuse the liberty which I now take in troubling you, at a time when you are too much occupied in aranging matters of the utmost consequence to the whole community, when you rightly understand the motives and reasons of my wrighting—Many of the citizens, as I am informed, of this vicinity are now out on a tour of duty as a guard at the mouth of the Grand River under an order from you. The reasons which induced you to make this arangement were, unquestionably such as led you to suppose the measure an advisable one, and would be for the safity of this settlement, in this unhappy situation of our Country—I have been applied to by almost the whole of the inhabitants of this township to interseed with you, for them to get themselves and their neighbours released from performing the tower of duty. I am well persuaded from everything which I can draw from them in getting their ideas, that it does not arive from a calculation or wish to be exempt from performing such duty as shall be required of them but from the peculiar situation of themselves and families and a belief that it will be attended with an expense to the publick and can be of no importance to the plan. It will be recollected by you that a large proportion of the Militia of this place are now at Huron as volunteers.

after this 10 or 12 who have moved away through fear, then take the number required for the gard and you may well suppose our number of laybouring men are few. The fact is our number are so reduced that several families occupy the same house and much of the produce of this years groath is just waiting for want of care. You may well suppose that men accustomed to laybour feel very unpleasant to see their crops going to decay without the possibility of securing them. Yet you would not find one of them to request to be released, did they not think that they were imployed in doing that which is of no advantage to themselves or the Community. It will also be recollected that season for seeding is now come and every hour to the farmer is of more consequence to him than money and especially as laybour, at this time, can not be bought with money. I have thought of the thing much and on the most mature reflection must say that the interest of this plan would be greatly augmented in having those who are now employed at the mouth of the River dismissed. Under these impressions and in consequence of the very many and earnest solicitations of those around me I have been induced to write what I have thinking that by possibility you might be induced to grant their request.

I am Sir with respect and esteem

Your Obdt Humble Servt

SAMUEL W. PHELPS.

Painesville 10th Sepr. A. D. 1812.

Head Quarters Cleaveland Sept 16th 1812

MR. COMMISSARY

SIR Please to Deliver to Daniel Mulholland
Thirty Six Rations of meat and flour for the support of

himself his wife and Eight children four Days it having been Proven to me that he was a Lieutenant in the Militia of the Michigan Territory on duty in the Garrison at the River Raisen at the Time it was evacuated and his property was destroyed.

E[LIJAH] W[ADSWORTH]

Sept. 16, 1812.

HENRYISM.

I detested Republican government, and filled the newspapers with essays against it.—Henry.

And when these messengers of Hell come here, shall we not look at them?—Macon.

From the Boston Centinel
The Duty of the Northern States!

In a letter from a gentleman in a neighboring state to his friend in Boston “You ask my opinion on a subject which is so much talked of—a dissolution of the Union. On this subject I differ from my fellow-citizens generally, and therefore I ought to speak and write with diffidence. I have for many years considered the Union of the southern and northern states, as not essential to the safety and very much opposed to the interest of both sections. The extent of territory is too large to be harmoniously governed by the same representative body. A despotic prince, like the emperor of Russia, may govern a wider extent of country, and numerous distinct nations; for his will controls their jealousies and discordant interests; but when states having different interests are permitted to decide on those interests themselves, no harmony can be expected. The commercial and non-commercial states have views and inter-

ests so different, that I conceive it to be impossible that they can ever be satisfied with the same laws, and the same system of measures. I firmly believe that each section would be better satisfied to govern itself, and each is large and populous enough for its own protection; especially as we have no powerful nations in our neighborhood. These observations are equally applicable to the western states, a large and distinct portion of the country, which would govern themselves better than the Atlantic states can govern them. That the Atlantic states do not want the aid or the strength or councils of the western states is certain, and I believe the public welfare would be far better consulted and more promoted in a separate than in a federal condition. The mountains form a natural line of division, and moral and commercial habits of the northern and middle states would unite the western people. In like manner the moral and commercial habits of the northern and middle states would link them together as would the like habits of the slave holding states. Indeed the attempt to unite this vast territory under one head, has long appeared to me absurd. I believe a peaceable separation would be for the happiness of all sections. But as the citizens of this country have generally been of a different opinion, it is best not to urge for a separation till they are convinced of their error. Let us make the best of the Union—till public evils shall reconcile all our citizens to a dissolution—an event that may be remote, but must be certain.”

[From the *Trump of Fame*.]

Head Quarters Cleaveland Sept. 16th 1812.

MR. COMMISSARY

SIR Please to deliver to Reuben Lewis, a soldier, from the Michigan Territory on duty in the Garrison at the River Raisin, at the time it was evacuated, as has been proven to me, as also that his property has been destroyed at the above place, thirty two Rations of meat and flour for the support of himself his wife and seven children, for four Days.

E[LIJAH] W[ADSWORTH] Maj. Genl.

SALISBURY [CONN.,] Sep 17th 1812.

VERY DEAR BROTHER:—

I Recd. yours of August 22nd in which you inform me of your expected march to join the patriotic arms of your countrymen. Go and may the God of battles and the Guardian Angel of America shield you from injury and dishonor. The defeat of Hull is astonishing to all of us here, by some he is called coward, traitor, I form no opinion; if the ill success of his enterprise is to be imputed to the government let them bear the odium. I am some disposed to conjecture the administration will attempt to screen themselves by Censuring Hull, a very dastardly alternative if true. The truth is the administration of Maddison is too weak for War! We wait with patience till the Genius of a Christian shall watch over our armies and protect them from dishonor.

In this State we have but little of the *Amor Patriae* that love of country and of glory which is felt by you. Our too flagrant predelection for the Mother of our religion. Old England the unexpected course taken by our Executive with respect to our Militia is a complete damper upon Connecticut ardour. The war is extremely

unpopular here so much so that our Militia could not be dragged to the field And when the direct tax is called for, I fear we shall see open resistance to authority. I do not much fear a civil war our Federalists dare not risk their lives and properties on the fate of it.

We have heard of the retaking of Detroit by our troops. I hope it is true. If it is not done it must be, for till then you can have no safety in your country. We have here no news of any kind of consequence. Yesterday was our General review the regiment met in this town, the day was fine, the Regiment is in complete uniform and equippt perfectly, and had they the Love of country manifested by your militia much might be hoped from them.

Captain Philo Nichols of Hudson died last week of a dropsy. I understand Mrs. Hammett is in town tho I have not seen her. Fathers family are well. In myself I am at present very unwell with a pain in the breast occasioned I believe by a sudden concussion in jumping off of waggons. I hope to recover soon. Have letters received in Huron I understand you are at Cleveland in Camp; continue to write to me every week during the present state of things in your Country. Father feels a fathers anxiety concerning you.

Your affectionate brother

SAMUEL.

[To] Ensign Church, Canfield, O.

CAMP DEFIANCE 3 MILES WEST OF WOOSTER

Sept. 17th 1812.

DEAR GENERAL

Your communication of the 15th instant I recd. this day and it is with pleasure that I can inform you

that the report of Genl. Taylor's being killed, I believe to be unfounded, but it is with extreme regret that I have to inform you that on Tuesday last the Indians killed three men, wounded two men and one woman about three miles above Greentown, and eight miles east of Mansfield, (at the house of one Cobus) one Indian was killed and others wounded, the indians retreated—the indian killed was one of those who formerly lived at Greentown and was recognized on his way with the others (Indians) who were escorted through Mansfield towards the settlements for their protection—for want of the necessary supply of Forage and provisions I have been compelled to halt at this place much against my will and I believe contrary to the wishes of every man now in Camp, who appear anxious to proceed. I strongly recommend to the quarter Master department to proceed to owl creek and the Mohekin settlements, which is within eighteen miles of the place of my intended destination to commence the erecting block houses—I offered to send a sufficient guard but the head of that department considered it most proper to send back the waggons and teams to Jefferson and Columbiana Counties for the supplies and has done so. I have sent detachments and stationed them as follows towit, one small company at Kinneys on Sugar Creek for the purpose of erecting a block house, and to range the woods, this house will answer the double purpose of a deposite of provisions and a place of refuge for the inhabitants in time of danger. I have ordered a Picket and Bastions to be erected at Wooster and two Companies are stationed for that purpose. I have detached Captn. Murry and Company to Jaromestown, who is erecting a Block house at that place eleven miles advance of this place, on the arrival of the news of the murder above

stated I detached the troop and seventeen rifle men to that settlement with orders for them to assist in erecting Block houses—I can assure you Sir, that had we not moved in the direction we have, I am confident that not a white family would at this day been west of the Tuscarawa, although we are rendering them all the protection in our power and many of them are daily moving off, we all feel much gratified with the prospect of receiving pecuniary aid Camp equipage and arms from the General government, the men I believe are not prepared with Clothing for the Winter, two days ago, I caused to be apprehended and Confined under guard a french man who was in possession of a pass from the Governor, also a Statement in writing addressed to Major Spafford at Cleveland giving information of our force at different places their movements and place of destination signed R. J. Meigs which is contrary to the Governors proclamation in pursuance of which I as a Military officer acted in the premises, believing it possible that this fellow must have obtained them by some undue means—there is also a frenchman by the name of Jarome married to an Indian squaw I have caused him to be confined for his safety and our own security—I have caused scouts daily to range the woods for the distance of from ten to twelve miles from this place in every direction, they have discovered no fresh signs of Indians—Spt. 18. last night an express arrived in camp that an Indian was seen within four miles of my camp and the settlement had fled to Wooster, this came by letter from the Revd. W. Jones of Wooster. I ordered out a subalterns command to take possession of the house of Judge Kimpton for the night and to examine early in the morning the neighbourhood around, and in case from appearances they had equal numbers to pur-

sue and destroy them, but on the contrary to keep their ground and send Express to me—at the same time I have no confidence in the report I believe them to be deserters who were skulking about and stealing corn until, they have a better opportunity of returning home. I have continued in camp though frequently unwell especially in cloudy or wet weather I feel every symptom of the ague in fact I feel at such times quite good for nothing—barely from the necessity of the case I have continued—and I feel much mortified that I could not accomplish the object I had in view to wit the erecting block houses in the direction which Major Tappan and myself conversed on—from the deranged situation of my public business at home and the Critical state of my health I hope the General will see the propriety of my returning home at least for a time, if not until my regular tour of duty arrives and the proper command is in the field—in the meantime I shall continue with the detachment until we advance to Mansfield and commence the erecting Block houses when I expect to return home at the last attack I have reason to believe there were more than one Indian killed, at all events there were one left on the ground two Guns, a soldiers coat a hat an eagle and one white mans scalp in the cap—immediately after the action Colo. Bay who was stationed near Mansfield from Genl. Cass's Brigade moved in and is now near this place on his march to the interior—I have no control over him but have sent him and will advise him to return—it favours a retreat more than anything else—I have issued orders to Colo. Sloane to furnish his quarto of the second draft, they have not come on nor do I believe it's safe or necessary for them so to do until they are supplied with arms—rely upon it General I shall do everything in my power to aid the

service, the enclosed is the present strength under my command. Colo. Bay I have seen and he is determined and has gone home to New Philadelphia with a part of his Detachment

Sincerely your friend,

R. BEALL

B. G.

Major Genl. Wadsworth

CAMP DEFIANCE THREE MILES WEST OF WOOSTER

Sept. 20, 1812

DEAR GENL.

If a fall or winter campaign is contemplated for the troops from my Brigade to encounter, it is essential that we should be prepared for it, Let us not deceive ourselves. I can assure you that in consequence of the sudden and unexpected call that there is not one man in twenty who has winter clothing with them. The idea was to repel invasion and protect the frontiers, until we would be relieved by the General Government with volunteers and regulars many of my detachment has no socks and a number entirely barefooted, all dressed in summer clothing. the Governor writes to me thus "you will at this important season of the year keep as few troops as possible in service, and those drawn principally from the interior of the country, and not from the frontier, considering it impolitic to set the inhabitants of the frontier to protect themselves" From this I infer that the United States will furnish troops for offensive operations, taking in to view the great number that Ohio (I may say nearly all) furnished of the first army and the exposed situation of our frontier by the conduct of that scoundrel Hull, that the U. S. will expect nothing more

from us at this time than to protect the frontiers, until they are ready with volunteers and regulars to penetrate into the enemy's country—these are my ideas, I believe them to be founded in justice and upon correct principles—I have received the strongest evidence that it has been the Greentown Indians who have done all the damage on the Mohekin waters, as a number of them who were in the last attack were well known and their names given by some of the whites who were in the action. I wish you to inform the Governor of this circumstance, and I would advice if he has the Greentown and other Indians in keeping, that he would cause a roll to be kept of the Warriors and their names regularly called, at least morning noon and evening. I have felt and still feel greatly mortified for want of supplies that I have been prevented from gaining the point of destination before this—but I hope I shall soon have it in my power to make a forward move—the Governor fully approves of the plans of erecting block houses as proposed—He informed the express that he would march his force to Sandusky and is undoubtedly now on his march—General Taylor arrived safe at Head quarters the day Lieut. Scott left there—which I suppose determined the Governor to move—I have detached from my Command the troop of Horse and a part of a Company of rifle men to the Clear fork of Mohekin—two companies to Jaromestown, they are erecting Block houses, and at the same time scouting parties sent from each—one small company at Kinney's station eleven miles East of Wooster on Sugar Creek and two Companies at Wooster for the like purposes—Col. Williams with a small force from General Cass's Brigade is stationed at Mansfield,—the remainder of Bay's detachment at Beams Mill three miles east of Mansfield on the Black fork of Mohekin—

and Col. Kratzer ten or twelve miles north of Mansfield on or near the Huron road—I am Dear Genl. your
Obt. &c

Servt.

REASIN BEALL,

B. Genl.

Gen. Wadsworth.

CAMP AT AVERY,

Sept 28, 1812.

MAJ. GEN. WADSWORTH,

SIR On the 26th Inst. we informed you by letter, that previous to the arrival of your dispatches Majr. Frazer had been detached on command to Sandusky—By a hasty letter received from him last evening, he informs us that he had arrived at that place—that his men were all in good health and spirits—that he had found property to considerable amount. Cornfields belonging to the Indians extensive. a great many fat hogs &c. He earnestly requests permission to make it a post; he thinks it well calculated for that purpose. That the blockhouse and stockades are in good condition &c. and has desired that the request might be made to you. Capt. Hutchins who was with Majr. Frazer makes the following statement of the property found there viz 80 bbs of salt 12 do of fish 3 do. of flour. 3 do wheat several do of pork 200 lbs. Iron. a set of Gunsmith's tools, and that the men are continually bringing in farming tools household furniture &c. In the Indian houses they found a considerable quantity of dry corn, and beans and considerable other property. We shall use every exertion in carrying your former commands into execution, while we anxiously wait for your determination on this sub-

ject and in the meantime earnestly join in the request made by Majr. Frazer Our situation in camp is much as it was when we wrote last. The report concerning the Gun boat appears to have been false.

With high considerations of

Esteem I remain your most obt

J. SHANNON M. Com.

PITTSBURGH 28th Sept. 1812.

SIR

I shall in a few days dispatch to you some powder, flints &c—I am fearful, that you will be in want of them.

News have reached us, that 200 English, and a large body of Indians left Detroit very recently to attack Fort Wayne, and Fort Harrison on the Wabach—and that Malden is almost destitute of Troops. If this story be correct you have a fine opportunity of falling in behind the enemy, and perhaps of taking Detroit and Malden. I merely suggest these hints for your consideration—and am, Sir, in haste, your very Huml Servt

AMOS STODDARD, maj.

corps of Artillarists

Genl. Wadsworth.

CLEVELAND O. Sept. 30, 1812.

MAJ. GENL. WADSWORTH

SIR One half the arms sent to this place for the purpose of arming the drafts of the Militia from Genl. Paine's Brigade are totaly unfit for service—and the remaining half will with difficulty be made to answer the

purpose—In short the detachment who in consequence of the late alarming intelligence from Huron are ordered on there can feel no confidence in themselves on account of their arms and accoutrements—We have no flints fit for use. The Inhabitants here consider themselves in a verry defenseless situation—and are anxious either to have a body of Armed men sent on this way or a quantity of good arms and accoutrements sent on to this place to enable the inhabitants to defend themselves in case of necessity—As most of our Soldiers and all the arms fit for use are gone from here—But ninety of the drafts have as yet arrived here, and Start for huron immediately—We understand there are but one hundred men in Camp at Huron fit for service.

Your Humble Servt.

GAIUS PEASE Brig. Maj.

BRIG. GENL. SIMON PERKINS

SIR This moment I had the misfortune to learn by an express from you, that our brave Citizens who are Stationed to the westward, are in rather precarious situation, to remedy the evils that appears to surround them, I shall forward on from this place all the men that can be fitted for duty immediately, the Detachment under the command of Genl. Bill will be on as soon as possible, likewise all the odd Battalion, a part of which will be mounted on Horse back, these forces united I trust will be sufficient to ensure to us the possession of the Station at Huron—

Respectfully,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH

Maj. Genl.

4 Div. O. M.

Head Quarters Camp Portage 30th Sept. 1812

PITTSBURGH Oct. 2nd 10 oclock at night

DEAR GENL,

Having now a little leasure I thought I might as well employ a few minutes with you before I retire as not—I have since writing to you this morning formed an acquaintance with a Genl. Duboise who says he is acquainted, and served with you in the revolution, I find him agreeable and communicative—he has now a Brigadier's Comd. in our Western Army—And is anxious to have the detachment of 2000 here to march and join you at Portage with the whole of the Artillery Amounting to upward of sixty pieces from Six to thirty two pounders, all of which was laid of by him before he left Washington City, and is under the command of Major Ball, Who is also here—I am using my influence to bring them by the way of Portage because I really think it practicable and the most prudent rout—I meet with opposition by some of the persons living here, and Major Stoddard is not yet convinced that it is the best rout. I wish I was acquainted with the road from Portage to the rapids of Miami, if they could be convinced that, that road was any how possible, that would be the rout—however the Ajt. Genl. of this State and Major Duboise is very Solicitous that the troops should join you and tomorrow at nine o'clock we are to obtain a map and ascertain the situation and distance which is to determine the distiny of this army Which will not be ready to march from here before the middle or last of next week owing to several circumstances, Camp equipage is not ready, And they have to go into an election of Officers which will not be before monday at nearest—those regulations will retard the progress the troops—

Mr. Stoddard and myself have purchased a Horse and have sent him on to you, it is the best in our opin-

ions we could do for you, I hope he may serve your purpose—I dont expect to be able to leave here before Monday It takes considerable time to put up and send on the war munitions.

Your orders were honoured in my favour without difficulty, Major Stoddard indorsed them to the Depty. Qar. Master and he gave me a check on the Bank for the Amt—

I have the Honour to be with high esteem

Yours very respectfully

LIEUT. DAVID CLENDENIN.

N. B. If an opportunity offers I should be glad to hear the particulars of our unfortunate little army at Sandusky.

D. C.

Since writing the above letter we have recd. information from som Jentleman of Genl. Halls army now here, that the road from Sandusky to the rapids of Miami is impossible for Heavy Teams, which will determine the rout of those troops and Artillery some other course it is now spoken of by the way of Zanesville. I am in hopes to get the Whole of your requisition filled by remaining here a few days, as war munitions are constantly arriving.

D. C.

I have little doubt of being able to obtain what money you may please to order.

HEAD QUARTERS PORTAGE

Oct. 4th 1812

MAJR. STODARD

SIR Your letter of 28th Ulto. is before me have noticed the contents part of the Arms amunition and have arived but not a flint have we in camp nor even in

some of those arms sent forward some of which i have sent forward to arm a detachment at Cleveland I have copied a sentence from the inspector at that place which will acquaint you with situation of the arms which have been forwarded to me viz "one half of the arms sent to this place for the purpose of arming the drafts from Gen Paynes Brigade are totaly unfit for service and the remaining half will with difficulty be mad to answer the purpose" this is the case with a great part of the old arms marked to be fit for use which are a very considerable part of those yet recd; You will readily see my present situation not very formidable to make an attack on Detroit or Malden by my present calculation find 300 stands of Arms will be wanting to complet my detachment and wish they may be forwarded as soon as possible. The front post of my detachment is kept at Huron now under command of Gen. Perkins 93 men were sent a few days ago on the Peninsula they had an engagement with a party of Indians in which we had six men kild and ten wounded. The Indians are driven from the Peninsula with loss. We are much in want of Steel to repair tools for the Artificers also files are much wanted be so good as to forward some.

E[LIJAH] W[ADSWORTH]

CAMP HURON 5th Oct. 1812

MAJOR GENL. ELIJAH WADSWORTH

DEAR SIR:—

I arrived here last night between eight and nine with all the men except five which were left in the rear with the light waggon, we were all much fatigued and several sick our march was much procrastinated by waiting for the pack horses which was expected—to follow

us with provisions &c on our march about twenty five miles from camp several rifles (say 8 or 10) were distinctly heard, and were supposed to be within one mile of us, this firing was thought by Williams to be on the head waters Chipawa and to proceed from Ind's. our men were made ready to pursue them the rifle men with Sergeant Johnston and Williams at their head went for the purpose of commencing an attack, some time was spent in viewing the best ground to answer our purpose if we were to enter into an engagement I mention this for the purpose of accounting to you for the time spent on the march, this affair ended without any discovery being made of any Indians or of what is termed any signs of them. On Friday morning I forwarded despatches to Gen'l. Perkins by Capt. Hutching and Lieutenant Tanner, informing him of our being on the march &c and wishing him to send to me some person well acquainted with the ground about the camp, to assist us to make the best of an approach if he shou'd be besieged on Saturday the two draggons, left us for Huron to request Genl. Perkins to forward, on 100 rations our men having eaten to a mere bite their provisions, all of us were not in possession of 3 lb. bread and without one ounce of meat between Saturday morning and half past three oclock on Sunday morning, this bread was however equally divided among us, at this time we were brot to the necessity of thinking of killing one our best Horses the thought was painful to me as the animal had rendered us much services—at this time we were within six miles of Huron and within a short distance of a house we concluded to proceed on in hopes of procuring potatoes and to save the Horse—We proceeded on but a short distance and were met by one of our faithful troopers by the name of Wm. Sprague with

provisions and giving us information that all was well at Camp and that the affair at the Peninsula was of far less import than was calculated on—I cannot undertake to discribe that which I felt within my self or discovered in the countenances of others that a minute before thinking of stabling to the heart an useful animal, and filling our knapsacks with his flesh and without salt or bread to advance, on our enimies whose distance from us or numbers unknown—The men on Friday evening after a march until dark, throug a storm of the greatest fall of rain for half of the day I scarce ever knew rolled themselves in their blankets which were as wet as if they had been diped in a tub of water and stretched themselves with apparent composure on the ground, without anything else to cover them—they have done all with pleasure—they are worthy of the name of soldiers—On Saturday morning the arms, in spite of the greatest care, recd. so much water that their charges were in a great measure dissolved—they had to prick in powder and discharge them—we could not spend time to unbreech them all—at which time my mare broke loose and made her escape, I proceeded on foot, I wish you to be good enough to see that some enquire is made for her, I am in hopes she will return to Head quarters—

This place wares the appearance of Cleveland—Excuse erasures and interlineations as I have no place to write and have, to borrow a dip out of a half Doz Different Ink Stands, in much haste—But believe me to be yours in freedom fervancy and Zeal.—

W. W. COTGREAVE Maj.

CAMP AT VERMILION RIVER. Oct 7th, 1812

ELIJAH WADSWORTH ESQ.,

Major Genl. 4th Division

SIR

We have proceeded on our march to this place. There has been no remarkable occurrence except on the evening of the 5th one man accidentally cut off two of his fingers and the morning of the following Discharged With regard to the to the Road and Bridges Capt. Collier has had daily Six men and a corporal who have cut the timber out of the Road and Cleared it and the Road is passable though not good.

yesterday morning in addition to the usual number Lieut. Hamilton and 20 men were detached to go to Black River to prepare for Bridging the River when Collier arrived with the Detachment. The situation of the Banks were such and the width of the stream so great that he hesitated and when I had arrived and viewed the place I found the object to be beyond my power to accomplish with the provision and tools which we had. It being the opinion of Capt. Collier that it would employ the whole detachment five Days it was then considered that other Streames wanted Bridging as much as that and the whole was more than was calculated and it was Likewise considered that teames might as well pass at present without bridging as they could pass other places without Bridging, and if the army must pass this way after high water it would even in that case be cheaper to build something to float across a detachment and field pieces then to Bridge that and other Streames which want it equally as much as Black River. This River would cost nearly or quite as much to Bridge it as it would Black River and it wants it as much and there are other Streams which wants it equally

as much as Black River and there are Small Streames which at present are quite as Bad or worse to cross than Black River and making an estimate I think it would cost one thousand Dollars to Bridge and make the Road passable when it is high water to this place.

with Respect I am your humble Servt.

GEORGE DARROW.

HEAD QUARTERS,
ROCKY RIVER Oct. 18, 1812.

LIEUT. CLENDENEN

SIR,

You will be very particular and bring forward all the articles contained in your last bill, If any articles must be left for want of teams, it will be the pig Lead, calculating 1000 lbs for two pair of oxen—ox teams will be preferable—each team will carry half a bushel of corn ears for each ox pr day—perhaps you had better estimate 7 Days allowance of corn, weighing 40 lbs pr bushel, 14 bushels will be 560 lbs to be aded to the load total 1560 lb which I believe will be a sufficient load to go through this road you will procure extra teams to bring on those sacks filled with oats which are in the store you are not however to detain for bringing on the oats, except two or three load, which may be necessary—you will also bring forward all the cartriges and bar Iron which remain in the store at the Portage

Capt. Nimmor will march on with his Company as a guard to the waggons, and in case the quarter master has not done it you will provide A team to hawl the baggage of his company you will provide A number of teams, sufficient by pressing the same in case they can not be procured otherwise.

E[LIJAH] W[ADSWORTH]

SALISBURY [CONN.,] Oct. 27, 1812.

MY DEAR BROTHER.

Yours of the 8th Inst is now before me received this day. Altho our mail does not return from here untill Saturday I am impatient to write you, not that I have any news to communicate, but that when my pen is employed in corresponding I fancy I converse with you face to face. I regret extremely that your family is left alone and unassisted in your absence and hope Jerusha and her little babes will welcome your return to them again shortly. When I am writing you a Soldier contesting the rights and freedom of your country I confess myself ashamed, not ashamed of my principles or of my feelings but ashamed that I live under a government that restrains the ardent feelings of so many of its citizens. Do not imagine Connecticut people are all indifferent to their country's honor, all congratulate them . . . that you are fighting her battles; No many very many feel warm in the cause and ready to spill their blood for their country, but what can we do, our government restrain and we must abide the consequence. News of a defeat excites a sarcastic smile on the face of our opponents, this provoking usage often prompts me to insult, tho I restrain myself as well as possible. Many even of my own friends think me wild and enthusiastic in my notions. But I verily believe however wild the notion that you and I are soon to be enemies our countries are to become separate, and we and our descendants are to mingle their hands in each others blood. This has long been my conviction, and it is confirmed by a late endeavour of our legislature now in session A Bill before the house authorizing the raising 6 Regts. to serve this state during the war, to be raised by enlistment and paid by the state!! For what purpose

is this? are not our militia as well trained as any militia, and do they not love their own homes and their own property sufficiently well to defend them if necessary. Unquestionably. Why then raise a body of regular troops unless there are too many in the Militia determined to live or die by our Constitution, and upon whom our state rulers can place no dependence in case a severance of the union is to be effected by force.

Oct. 30th

Yesterday Nathaniel was here to whom I gave your last letter to hand to father.

Since I began my letter we have received news of the death of Gov Griswold he died at Norwich on Sunday last, we shall probably have John C. Smith in his stead. It was a long time feared that Massachusetts would have no electors for President, it is however decided to choose electors by districts made up of the Circuits of the Court of Common Pleas; a majority will be Clintonian without any question. A report was in circulation a few days ago from a letter of Chs. B. Fitch to his brother here that Gen. Harrison had defeated the Indians with the slaughter of 1000, what inducement he could have to write thus I know not; as you do not mention it nor is it mentioned in the Warren paper of the 14th Inst. You have ere this heard of the defeat of our troops at Queenstown. I hope we shall not hear such accounts from Gen. Harrisons army. But affairs are so miserably managed at the seat of Government that we need not be surprised at defeat and dishonor. When this letter arrive at Canfield you will probably be at Detroit or on your return, I think if anything is done it must be done soon. I am surprised

that no one is left at home by you to take care of your business in your absence. We were informed by Henry Chittenden that a Mr. Wright was left by you to take care in your absence tho your absence must be very disagreeable to Jerusha yet the idea of your performing a sacred duty to your Country and that your exertions are to save her and her babes from Indian and British Massacre will lighten the burden of absence and welcome your return with increased joy. Nothing need be expected from Connecticut as a state in this war, but the bounty of individuals I hope will tend to soften the rigors of the winter upon the Soldier.

You speak of Fathers sending one of the boys to you, I have not heard anything of this kind spoken of and indeed do not know how it could be done. Leman is so given to study that he is not worth a cent to work, he is now at school in Sharon, John is the very best of boys and fathers dependence, as he has no hired man at all. Daniel cant work and tho Walter [?] and Frederick are good boys yet they are too young fer you. Father wished me to inclose 25 dollars to you for his taxes but I thot as you would probably be at Detroit it would be unsafe. If Jerusha opens this Letter before you do she can read our Love to her and her babes. We are in good health as are the people generally in this place. Mrs. Hammet has been in our neighborhood but did not call upon us.

Do write every week, as anxiety is upon the tiptoe concerning you and the army of the west and will be until Detroit is rescued from the Indians. Father sends for letters every mail.

Yours,

S. CHURCH.

ENSIGN CHURCH, Canfield, Ohio.

Huron Nov. 5, 1812.

United States

To John Hays Dr.

For one pair oxen and chain.....	Ds 60.00
One waggon	80.00
" " and four horses with geers &c complite	400.00
" thousand bushels of corn at 30 cts per bushel	300.00
	Ds 840.00

Recd. of Lt. Ensign Church asst. Depy Qr. Master
Eight hundred and forty dollars in full of the above
acct.—*Duplicates.*

JOHN HAYS.

HURON Nov. 7th 1812

United States

To Henry Hoge Dr.

For hauling Hay five days from the 1st to the 5th Nov. both days included at four dol- lars per day	Ds. 20.00
For hauling straw from the 20th to the 31st Oct. 1812—both days included. Twelve days at Four dollars per day.....	48.00
	Ds. 68.00

Recd. of Lt. Ensign Church asst. Depy Qr Master
the above acct in full—*Duplicates.*

HENRY HOGE.

HEAD QUARTERS, HURON RIVER Nov. 9th 1812
Brig. Gen. Perkins

Sir; It is my duty to state to you that it will be out of the power of the contractor to furnish the number of rations required by Gen. Harrison.

As there had been considerable quantities of provisions deposited at Sanduskey, Miami, River Raisin and Detroit for the supply of the army and as these provisions have fallen into the hands of the enemy in consequence of the capitulation by Gn. Hull and as the contractor has not received any notice from the War Department, for any further supplies, he does not consider himself bound to furnish them.

He feels confident that a concurrence of circumstances which renders it impossible (at this late season) to comply with the requisitions will justify this construction of the contract. The navigation of the lake which had heretofore been employed in transporting provisions to the army has for several months past been exclusively in possession of the enemy except for small boats.

The ports require to be supplied have been for several months and still continue in possession of the enemy, surrounded by an wilderness on one hand and a desolated country on the other. My instructions from the contractor seem to be dictated from a full consideration of all these circumstances. It would be beyond my instructions to attempt to supply the army at Sanduskey or any place beyond.

I will however on behalf of the contractor continue to furnish such quantity of provisions as may be in my power, to be delivered in bulk after the army leaves this place the public paying the expense of transportation of flour and whiskey after it passes Cleaveland and this

I will continue to do untill otherwise instructed. In order to give you the best idea in my power of the situation of quantity of flour and whiskey we have on hand I will state that there are in camp say of flour 100 Bbls On board of Boats Whiskey and flour.....390
At *Erie by best estimation460

On Board of boats Whiskey and flour.....390

The flour and whiskey in boats may be expected shortly, at least the greater part of it. In this case it may possible that they may make another trip to Erie, this fall if the weather should continue warm. Of meat we have enough. I am sir respectfully

your obedient Serv.

For the Contractor

SAMUEL TUPPER.

*Presque Isle

HURON Nov. 10, 1812.

United States

To John James Dr.

For Ten days riding as express from Huron to Pittsburg, commencing the 1st and Ending the 10th Nov. 1812, both days included at \$1½ per day.....Ds 15.00
Recd. of Lt. Ensign Church asst. Depy Qr Master the above acct in full.

Duplicates

JOHN JAMES.

HURON, Dec. 2, 1812.

Maj. George Darrow

Sir, Two boats carrying 100 Bbls. have just arrived at the mouth of Huron, and I am in hopes that

in future that a good supply of provisions will be constantly on hand. I am informed that two boats supposed from the islands came this afternoon into the mouth of the Sanduskey Bay; but whether for plunder or some other purpose it is not known. You will do well to be on your guard and there is supposed to be Indians at Miami, you must be cautious to prevent a surprise. It is of much importance to have the corn gathered as expeditiously as possible, and put where it will be secured. The Store House will be also soon be very much wanted and must be compleated if it is not already done as soon as possible. I have a letter from Gen Harrison in which he informs me that he has great expectation from us and in order that we deserve well it is necessary that we perform well, and I hope no officer or soldier will forget that he is bound by every consideration of honor and fame to be vigilant and faithful in performing the many duties that must necessarily devolve on them in making the necessary arrangements for the campaign. You will please to order to this place all the teams that you can part with, retaining enough to go on with the work in which you are engaged. Another regiment will march on as soon as it can be prepared.

It is possible that Gen. Harrison may send you a number of Pack horses loaded with flour. If he does you must find some method of securing it as I conclude that the packers will be in want of their kegs or bags to take back return. I can not close this without again reminding you of the necessity of making every reasonable effort to secure the corn and to build the store house and also to get the blacksmith at work. Chains

you know are very much wanted and there is a plenty of corn at your command.

I am yours &c

SIMON PERKINS

PIPE CREEK, Dec. 11, 1812.

Lieutenant Church,

Sir,

I have a letter from Gen. Harrison which accompanied the flour that has arrived at Sandusky and find that it is not intended for our use at this time except from necessity.

Will therefore wish to have a number of teams loaded with flour as well as salt—I also find that salt will not be required so soon as I thought when I left you—perhaps you will by conversing with Major Doty determine what quantity of flour can be spared from your camp and you can load one half the teams with flour and the other with salt.

It will be a good arrangement, but of which you will do as you may think best and I will be satisfied. I have written to Mr. Austin to receive a receipt of you for the thousand dollars which I paid you last it was by us forgotton.

It will be very necessary to have your oxen shod. I spoke to Col. Andrews to furnish coal which he said should be done. If you have any use for Captain Collier, you will call on him perhaps he will be useful in obtaining the coal. If Capt. Robinson should not be gone it would be well to send to Mr. Biddle at Cleveland 200 lb. iron to shoe his oxen. He has no iron.

A sett of Coopers tools must be forwarded to Sandusky if they can be purchased and I believe they may

be had of Mr. Sprague or Bushnell at the mouth of Huron. Mr. Cloud a man who belongs to Parkers Company now at work for Fleming must come on.

SIMON PERKINS.

SANDUSKY, Dec. 12, 1812.

Dear Sir,

This will be handed you by Lieutenant Clendenin who will also present you with my monthly report for November. I feel mortified to inform you that I am now at Sandusky with only one regiment. The delay has been unavoidable, a constant scarcity of provisions has prevented my progressing faster. The business of boating has been much less useful to us than was expected, the season boisterous and the weather remarkably cold for the time, and the contractor not furnishing teams I have been under the Necessity of occupying my time in procuring supplies, which has prevented my progressing to the West as has been expected.

But of my situation generally Lieut. Clendenin will be able to give such information as may be necessary. In order to build the stores necessary for the reception of provisions I have ordered the boat builders from Huron or so many of them as can leave the business there without injury to the work they are engaged in. I have been and now am very destitute of the tools necessary to do any work. Axes which have been received from Pittsburgh and in which I had made my reliance prove to be entirely unfit for use and we have not any that are good except some that were purchased for the first detachment that were called out, and they are not one third the number required; and my blacksmiths have been unable to repair the bad axes. The

money furnished by Capt. Piatt is all applied to the purchase of teams and forage and I should have called on him for more, but being informed that he was with you you will please to direct clothing and blankets are much wanted and I have flattered my men that they could be supplied when the Pennsylvania arrived at Upper Sandusky. Will that be realized.

General Wadsworth applied to the secretary at war to appoint a paymaster for this detachment and was informed that it should be done but we do not receive any money, and the men grow uneasy for the want of it, many are poor and are in need of their wages to subsist their families at home. If you could give me any information on the subject it might be useful. I have a letter from S. Tupper the contractors agent who says that your proposition in regard to provisions is accepted he is not now in camp and has not been since I recd your letter, but is daily expected.

You will please recollect that I mentioned to you while at Huron that my business at home required my attention a few days the present month, it is of vast importance to me that I should be permitted to go home and if I do must probably be absent 18 or 20 days and shall endeavor to leave the business here so that it shall not suffer by my absence. My staff will remain here and everything shall be arranged as far as I am able to the best advantage. On this subject you will much oblige me by giving me your particular advise and permission.

Lieut. Clendenin will be able generally to inform you of the situation of this detachment, of my means to effect the object of the campaign and any communications that he may make you may rely on.

Capt. Stidger a very valuable officer commands an independent company in this detachment and feels that his men are subject to greater privation than the companies in general and to satisfy his men pleads a discharge for a part or all of them; the cause assigned is that the men in his company are called out in mass and that no men are left in the neighborhood and their families are destitute of the needed supply and I should prefer that something should be done for his accommodation [rather?] than to have them discharged.

SIMON PERKINS B. Gen.

If they could have their money I think they would be satisfied but do not apprehend any dangerous.
.....Capt. S. will write himself.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16.

We present our readers a short itinerary of the road from Pittsburgh by the way of this place and Cleaveland, to Detroit, together with a few descriptive remarks upon the country through which it passes. This road is several hundred miles higher than to go down the river Ohio and pass up through the western part of this State. When we consider the conveniencies of bridges and ferries on this road, it is preferable to any other through the state. Until the traveller arrives at Sandusky rapids, he will every few miles find all the accommodations usually attendant upon civilized life, in a new settlement. Before the disaster of gen. Hull, he might have lodged every night during his journey, from Pittsburgh to Detroit, under the hospitable roof of civilization. Every stream that can not be forded even in the winter season, has now either a bridge or a ferry across it, until we arrive at the Miami of the

lake. Previous to our late disasters in the Michigan territory there was a flourishing settlement at the crossings of this river near the spot where gen. Wayne in August '94, defeated the Indians. A collector of the customs was resident here, who, it was said collected a larger share of the public revenue, than any other collector on the shore of lake Erie. There was also at the river Raisin a flourishing settlement of whites both of French and English descent, scattered along on both sides of the river for several miles up. The principal settlement on this river, commenced about four miles from Lake Erie, at the first rapid.

Brownstown is an Indian village, situated a mile above lake Erie, at the first rapid. After the traveller leaves Cleaveland, he may, if he please, travel on the dry sandy beach of lake Erie, for a considerable part of the way to Sandusky. Through what is improperly called the Miami Swamp, the country is flat, but not more so, than the road from Urbana, to Detroit. The traveller is here subjected to travel a distance of one hundred and forty miles, without the appearance of a dwelling of civilized man, except it be occasionally a block-house, until he falls into the road from Pittsburgh at the rapids of the Miami. We have put down the names of some of the principal stages from Pittsburgh to Detroit, the distances of those places from each other, and from Pittsburgh: and the names of some of the inn-keepers on the rout. In some instances we have put down the names of persons, who have abandoned their homes since the war, but who were parmanent settlers and will return as soon as our government shall resume its authority in the Michigan territory. We have mentioned no names of persons as resident at any place

this side of Sandusky, river who are not now actually residing at those places.

	Miles	W. dis.	Inkeep
Pittsburgh to			
Beaver	28	28	
Greensburg	12	40	
Poland, Ohio	20	60	Kirtland
Youngstown	6	66	{ Rayne & Hillman
Liberty	5	71	Adams
Warren	7	78	
Nelson	14	92	Garret
Aurora	10	102	{ Sheldon Bissel
Cleveland Mills	20	122	Miles
Cleveland Shore of Lake Erie	6	128	{ Carter Wallace
Rocky River	7	135	
Dover	6	141	Taylor
Black River	14	155	Reed
Vermilion River	10	165	Sturges
Huron	20	185	Sprague
Rapids of Sandusky	36	221	
Rapids of Miami	34	255	Spafford
Raisin River	28	283	Godfrey
Brownstown	18	301	
Detroit	18	319	

[From the *Trump of Fame.*]

[Dec. 22 or 23, 1812.]

Gen. Harrison

Sir I wrote you a few days since that I had sent a scout to the Miami Rapids they have just returned. No men of any description at that place. All the corn that grew there this year is now safe and is certainly (as Capt. Dull says) from six to ten thousand bushels. Captn. Dull the Officer of the scout is a man of judgment and his reports may be relied on he says he went through the fields and in that way formed the estimates I have sent to inquire after the corn that you mentioned to me and agreed to take it have a party to start tomorrow morning to gather it, but as I think my men may be

better employed in a different way shall therefore not now send them there, until I hear from you. If I am directed I will with my Brigade see Miami in 14 days and stay there. The buildings at that place are all burnt. Fifteen men will be sufficient to gather and secure Spicers Corn and I hope you will not think I do wrong to wait. your further orders before I send them. I have informed him that I shall depend on it and that he must keep the cattle out of it The price for the whole is \$250. I am sir most respectfully your

very Humble Servt

SIMON PERKINS.

LOWER SANDUSKY

Dec. 23rd, 1812

Since writing the foregoing Captn. Stigger proposes to be the bearer and I introduce him to you as one of the most valuable officers under your command.

I am sir

SIMON PERKINS.

LOWER SANDUSKY Dec 24th 1812

I have but a moment to write you my dear wife, and inform you of my being in good health. The place where we are stationed is beautiful. I have been up the River 13 Miles, and for that distance better land than I ever saw elsewhere. There are several Indian villages, in that distance, containing from 15 to 20 huts which are now deserted. They were formerly inhabited by what are called friendly Indians, who are now many of them at Upper Sandusky who belonged to the Wian-

dot Tribe. Those belonging to the Seneca Nation have gone back to Niagara.

A scout returned yesterday from the Miami Rapids. They report that there are no Indians or British at that place, nor have there been since the fall of the Snow. We shall probably move on there in a few weeks. The Pennsylvania Troop have in part arrived at Upper Sandusky and the rest expected soon. The Drums are now beating and I have to attend to the guards.

My Love to our Dear Children and all Friends.

From Yours Affectionately,

ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

Mrs. Polly Whittlesey.

SANDUSKY 1st Jany. 1813.

REVERED SIR

As I esteem it an indispensable duty of my own, not only as to the good understanding that has ever existed between us, but particularly on account of your advanced age, and the anxiety, that I am sensible you undergo, concerning the situation of our Country, and particularly, respecting the situation of this part of the army, induces me to write you, not knowing however the reception this letter may meet with, still hoping it may be a favourable one. The movement of our army is very slow and I am fearful that our time will expire before the much wished for object is accomplished. True it is that my best wishes are for the good of my country and my little family, and was it not for my family my present impressions are that I could freely spend my time for the good of the community at large. The troops are generally in good health, and anxious to go on, Our pay master makes but slow progress in paying

off the troops, he was at this place when I came here, but has paid no money yet, and probably will not this two weeks to come, the business that I am engaged in is perplexing and I am fearfull will involve me in trouble before I get through with it, Genl. Harrison is expected here in a few days and I am in hopes that we shall then take up a line of march for the westward, we have commenced cutting the road through the Maumee Swamp which will probably take 12 or 14 days, and I was in great hopes that we should be the first to arrive at the Rapids, but by a letter recd. by Mr. Huntington this evening from upper Sandusky, it appears that Genl. Winchester is on his march for that place and will undoubtedly arrive there in the course of a few days. We have had scouts out to the rapids who report that there is a great plenty of Corn at that place and nothing there to disturb it, that being the case it will greatly expedite our march to Detroit; although the time that we have to stay is but short yet I hope in the time we may reach Maulden. We are at present very comfortably situated at this place having built ourselves huts, but yet I am perfectly willing to abandon mine and take upon myself the toils, fatigues and hardships of a winters campaign to accomplish the desired object, I think as much of my little family as any person but when our frontiers are so much exposed as they must unavoidably be, should this, little army retire to their homes as those have done at the other end of the Lake, it excites in my breast a real disposition to push forward on our expedition and accomplish it to the satisfaction, of this western country; but we have our opposition party even in camp, but prudence keeps them within decent bounds, but their intentions can be judged by their conduct.

It was pleasing intelligence to some to hear that the army at Black Rock, had retired to winter quarters, without accomplishing anything.

I am exceeding anxious to hear what the prospect is respecting the demands against the United States, not only on my own account but on account of others, who are constantly inquiring of me, when these demands will be paid off, but I am not able to give them any ans [wer] that appears to be at all satisfactory, and I will esteem it a great favour from you Sir to give me some little information on that subject, while I remain

Your Obt. Servt.

ENSIGN CHURCH.

Genl. Elijah Wadsworth
Canfield.

Be so good as to inform our people of my health which is good my respects to Mrs. Wadsworth and the rest of the family, also to our friend Bostwick and family.

LOWER SANDUSKY January 2nd 1813.

Your letter of Dec. 24th and your Papers of the 25th were received by Mr Way on the 31st I hope you will, be careful of your health, and consider it as of the first importance. Colds are common with us, but generally the Camp is as healthy as could be expected. The weather has been favorable, for our situation, untill yesterday—Last night it commenced snowing, and without intermission, has continued through the day, and is very Stormy to night and blustering.

Major Frederick has commenced cutting the road from this to the Miami Rapids with a party of about

Sixty men who he hired from the Troops, having undertook to cut the road by the Job.

No news to write. Uncertain when we move westward. It must depend on circumstances. Do not fail to write every week. I shall be very anxious to hear from you as frequently as, opportunities shall present, But do, not do anything that shall in the least expose, your constitution. Thank Mr. Mygatt for his favors, they were gratefully received and shall be answered. To Mr. Boughton present my compliments and inform him that I shall not be able to comply with his request at present. Mr. Patch I hope will not fail to write. To all give my Love—Tell the children they are not out of my mind, and that I hope to return and receive a favorable account of their good conduct.

Yours affectionate Husband

E. WHITTLESEY.

Mrs. P. Whittlesey.

DEAR SIR

I wrote you on the 6th inst. and mentioned that I had ordered a store house built four miles up this river from this place at the intersection of the Miami and Sandusky roads for the purpose of depositing the provisions intended for the Rapids but fearing I may not know your intentions in the regard to the provisions intended for this place please to inform me if I do right to deposit at that place all that is not required for to be spared here. This will make a saving of eight miles in the carriage of the provisions intended for Michigan. The road to the Rapids is so far progressed as to admit of waggons about eight or ten miles and the men are now at work; I have this day twenty five axes arrived in

camp that had been sent abroad to be repaired, these axes will be immediately ground and with them and those now on the road I think a sled road may be cut as fast as the teams would travel

In hopes to hear from you soon I am Sir most Respectfully verry Humble Servt

SIMON PERKINS.

Gen. Harrison
Lower Sandusky
Jany 7th 1813

We are much in want of blankets. Some men without any, and others with poor ones.

LOWER SANDUSKY Jany 10, 1813

HIS EXCELLENCY R. J. MEIGS ESQUIRE

SIR The inclosed is a duplicate of a contract made with Major Frederick for opening the road to Miami. It was at first contemplated to have the work done by fatigue parties detached, but having but few axes that was suitable for the purpose and a small proportion of the men who are qualified for laborers of that kind at this season of the year, I have thought that the money appropriated by government would be better applied by making a contract with a man who may if necessary compleat it in the Spring. The road is now cut about half the way and if it should be soon necessary to make use of it may be opened as fast as sleds can travel. If any advice should be given by you on the subject of the road it shall be attended to.

Nothing of importance has occurred of late and presuming you have frequent communications with Genl.

Harrison it may render less instructing my information at this time. from Sir your most Humble Servant

SIMON PERKINS.

CAMP ABOUT 2 MILES BELOW

COLD B FORT 21st Jan 1813

DEAR SIR

SIR I find it impossible to go on with the baggage M. Stores &c on the ice as the best shod oxen in consequence of their pulling off from each other, slip and cork themselves, and those that are poorly shod by the same means throw themselves. I have taken what is called Hulls road and encamped, under the circumstances attending my case, I have thought advisable to send Mr. Beach the bearer of this for all the remainder of unshod cattle with directions for them to repair immediately to camp supposing the river below our late encampment much the same as those we took in the unshod cattle.... as it would prevent their coming on possibly if your orders was waited for—we have not sufficient strength without them—Very Respectfully

Yours &c

W. W. COTGREAVE Maj.

CAMP WEST SIDE MIAMI 21st Jan 1813

DEAR GENL

SIR Our march yesterday was greatly procrastinated, for want of proper attention in a Mr. Beach who is termed waggon master—Our men however with cheerfulness, with the drag ropes of the peace of ordinance hitched themselves to one of the ox sleds and hawled on

the Amunition and Baggage which was left in the road. the Amunition I considered rather in a perilous situation and could not think of leaving it behind. I hope you will approve of that which has been done.

I send you by B. a Canteen of high wines a cheese and some Candles—be pleased to accept a tender of my humble respects and believe me to be yours, in freedom.

Fervincy and Zeal

W. W. COTGREAVE Maj 1st Batl.

2 Regt. 2 Brig

O. M.

N. B. The men are anxious to get on.

RIVER AT THE CROSSINGS OF HULLS ROAD

January 25th 1813

MY DEAR WIFE,

I have risen, at what time in the night, I do not know, to, inform you of my health and safety. We came here on the evening of the 23rd after having retreated from the Miami Rapids a distance of 15 miles from this. I wrote you sometime since and informed you that Gen Harrison was expected at Sandusky. He did not arrive, untill I think the 19th Inst. where he stayed but one day, on the evening, of which, an express arrived informing him, that, an attack on the British and Indians at the River Raisin, was meditated, for which purpose a force, of about I think, 750 strong had then marched.

Gen Harrison did not think this move a judicious one when he first heard of it, but said, after stating his reasons why he considered it, as premature, "that Gen. Winchester was where he could obtain, the best infor-

mation as to the force he had to oppose, and that at all events he would render him every assistance that lay in his power but feared that the information was communicated too late not but that he thought, that the place could be carried but, doubted, whether it could be held under existing circumstances." On the morning of the 21st which was Tuesday Generals Harrison and Perkins set off for Miami Rapids, after having ordered Col. Andrews to march, his Regiment, which would, with their baggage, within two hours after the order was given Major Cotgreave, marched his Battallions on Monday by an order, from Gen Perkins issued, on the 19th before Gen. Harrison's arrival. in consequence of a letter received from Gen. Winchester, Gen. Harrison did not arrive at Miami R. untill Wednesday Morning. Cotgreaves Battallions some time on Wednesday. Andrews, Regt. on Thursday. I set out with Captain Stidger on Wednesday night and arrived at the Rapids on Thursday night. On Tuesday afternoon possession was taken of the Raisin Rapids with a loss of only thirteen men on our side and some say from thirty to fifty Indians on the side of the British By a detachment under command of Col Lewis from Gen Winchesters Brigade The battle was bravely fought by the Americans, they marched against, a well directed fire of Musketry. one piece of Artillery and, savage bravery who after having been so frequently and recently flushed with victory, fight, with great assurance of over coming. Possession was once more taken of the River Raisin, Settlement and part of our lost territory regained. Gen. Winchester was not in the engagement, but was on his march with a reinforcement, from the Miami Rapids. All was joy and gladness with both Officers and Soldiers. There were all the conveniences and luxuries of

an old settlement, cider and Apples in abundance and to a soldier, who has been out four or five months, in an Indian Campaign, the sight of a woman is not the most uncomely object that can be conceived of. They rested in a state of too great security without reflecting that at this season of the year it would require as great force to, hold Raisin, as it would Detroit. The Officers, had many of them taken private lodgings and the Soldiers, were generally encamped in Gardens and in a situation, not easy disposed of to oppose the enemy. On Friday morning, at day break, they were attacked by a force of British and Indians, with at least three field pieces. The accounts are various as to the number of the enemy, some say there were Sixteen hundred others, who were also in the engagement, say there were three thousand. The Slaughter was great and our force entirely cut to pieces. Our first accounts were that they were all massacred. It is not now generally believed that more than one half are killed. It is said that those who gave themselves up and did not attempt to make an escape were taken prisoners. Early on Friday Gen Harrison was informed that the attack would probably commence. He immediately ordered Three Battallions of Virginia and Kentucky troops to march. At twelve O'clock Col. Andrews Regiment marched. Major Cotgreaves Battallions had Marched on Thursday in the afternoon. About Two oclock all the troops were ordered back certain information having been received that the enemy had gained a complete victory. We returned to our encampment and orders were given for the men to rest themselves. About Two oclock at night we commenced loading the Sleds, for a retreat—which was effected in good order. The men when ordered to March for Raisin, were animated, much beyond my expectation. When

they were ordered to recross the Miami and retreat they looked cast down and dejected. This is the third sad misfortune which has befallen this Country since the commencement of this war and on the eve when something was expected from our armies. I am confident that if Gen. Winchester had not moved on from the Miami Rapids, that in the course of Ten Days there would have been more than five thousand men with a heavy train of Artillery.

When we move forward again is somewhat uncertain the roads now are very bad. There was destroyed at the Miami Rapids 24000 lbs of Flour and between 24 and 30,000 lbs of Pork and Salt. I would write you more lengthily but this is all the paper I could get.

E. WHITTLESEY

P. Whittlesey

Since writing the above I have found a little more paper and as the messenger, is not quite ready to leave this for Lower Sandusky I will improve a moment more to write you, yesterday morning I could not help reflecting how unlike home was my situation. The water had fallen in torrents during the night, and when we got up at day break it was at least three inches deep, in our tent, and would have averaged at least two inches over the whole encampment, a part of our clothing, of course was as wet as water could make them. There is no grounds convenient to this better adapted for an encampment than the one we occupy. But with you it would be called a swamp. This morning it snows and the prospect before us not very cheering neither can I say it is very Gloomy. It is the prospect of a soldier, which I had anticipated. To bear it with fortitude is my determination. Do not be concerned about me I

tell you the worse side of the story as you know I am not in the habit of withholding from you my situation even if it was perilous, but it is not we are as perfectly secure here as we should be at any place east of us.

HEAD QUARTERS PORTAGE RIVER 15 MILES
FROM MIAMI Jany 28th 1813

DEAR SIR,

I am now at the place of date to which the army marched on Saturday last from Miami. You will no doubt previous to the time when this will reach you have heard of the defeat of Gen Winchester at French Town (River Raisin) It will therefore be unnecessary for me to give you the few particulars which are known here in regard to it, I will however say as I know it to be correct that Gen Winchesters movement to French Town was without the or advise of Gen. Harrison and although it will have a great effect upon the campaign and to defeat the great object intended to have been produced by it yet I think that the men now left and which can and will be easily assembled will be sufficient to give such an amount of themselves as will not be disgraceful to themselves or the nation. It would be difficult to conceive of a better arrangement of the troops than was made and making by Gen. Harrison at the time of the unfortunate movement of Gen. W. and had he not gone forward contrary to the wishes of Gen. Harrison everything that had been expected of the enemy of the N W would have been realized. I can not account for the conduct of Gen. W. on any other principles than that he and some of his principle officers thought that the taking such an advanced part would

be a popular thing in the eyes of the nation and that it would be an easy victory and relief from pillage and massacre the unfortunate inhabitants of that place and although it might be without orders, yet that ought not be sufficient to them. Now the victory was so easy and the favor to be acquired so great this would perhaps all had been proper had they taken the necessary precautions and knew the strength of the enemy to have been inferior to their own but I fancy they were too much impressed with the opinion that Kentucky bravery could not fall before so.....a foe as Indians and Canadians and in that very hour done more injury than the same number of men can possibly repair. You may be surprised at my.....writing in this manner on the movement of a detachment of which I have no command and with whom I I have had no union, I have made the statement from motives of duty (and which however I deem correct) knowing that another use of the Militia is soon to be made and thinking it not improper that the true cause of the misfortune of that detachment should be known to you and as the chief of the militia of the state of O[hio] are probably now about to order another detachment into the field. I have never been personally acquainted with Genl W or his officers but they are spoken of in the army as men of the first respectability and bravery.

The brigade which I have had the honor to command I fancy do themselves no dishonor and injury for this season of the year a good.....state of health. I am &c

[SIMON PERKINS.]

[To Gov. Meigs.]

To Major General Wadsworth and the Officers Commanding at Cleveland.

GENTLEMEN

We the undersigned being acquainted with the circumstances of Mr. Gad Hearts family, do think it our duty to Petition for his Discharge for the following reasons. First, he has a family of nine children who are destitute of food and clothing 2nd his wife is sick, and without his daily Labor cannot subsist. 3rd that he has two sons in the army who have marched to Huron, and is now unable himself to do Military Duty. If you think it expedient to discharge him on the preceding reasons an esteemed favor will be conferred on his distressed family.

FRDK. KIRTLAND

JOSIAH WOLCOTT

LEWIS

JOHN HOPKINS

LEWIS WOLCOTT

ELIHU MOSES

LEWIS SMITH

JAMES WOOD

HENDK. E. PAINE

LEVI WHITE

R. B. PARKMAN

WARREN March 13, 1813.

DEAR SIR

Since I wrote you last my Brigade have been discharged, and those who composed it, have mostly left the army, and returned to their families—When the Law of Ohio, offering to them a bounty, and calling on their patriotism to induce them to continue longer in the

service, was first received, it was thought that they might be useful by a short tarry in addition to the time for which they were first called out, and the most of them discovered no disposition to disapoint the expectation of the Legislature, but as the time for which they were called out drew towards a close the weather was such as, to render impossible any advances, that might be useful, and appearances seem to justify the idea, that the force remaining, would be sufficient to hold the ground, that was then occupied, and the verry great solicitude, which farmers generally have at this season of the year to be at home, prevailed with the men of my Brigade and they were not urged to tarry beyond the time, which they calculated on, when they left home; and although we have done less than has been expected, we have the satisfaction to believe that so much is now done, that if the government will give to Gen. Harrison a reasonable no. of men for the next campaign that he will not then disappoint the most sanguine expectations of the nations. I am sir most respectfully your verry obedient friend and servant

His Exy R. J. Meigs Esq.

SIMON PERKINS.

CANFIELD 7th May 1813

SIR

by Express from lower Sandusky, have received correct information that Genl. Harrison has been attacked at fourt Meigs by a large Body of British and Indians the mail has been taken and all communication cut off from the Country, in consiquence of this Information, have sent out orders for a draft of the Militia 1,000 to march immediately for his assistance.

Your Obedient Servt.

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

His Excellency R. J. Meigs.

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