was but a small regular force in garrison, at the Old Fort; and, for the purpose of affording additional protection, a body of volunteers were called out and placed under the immediate command of Major John Whipple. The main guard was posted at the Indian council house, where the new Firemen's Hall now stands, and a block-house was erected in Jefferson Avenue, on the Brush farm. The town was surrounded by a row of strong pickets, fourteen feet high, with loop-holes to fire through. The line of pickets commenced at the river, on the line of the Brush farm, and followed that line to about Congress street, and thence westerly along or near Michigan Avenue, back of the Old Fort, to the east line of the Cass farm, and followed that line to the river. On Jefferson Avenue, at the Cass line, and on Atwater street, on the Brush farm, massive gates were placed, which daily at rise and set of sun, grated on their ponderous hinges. Sentinels were placed at them, and along the line of pickets. It was rather an exciting time, but many ludicrous scenes occurred. Among others, on a dark, rainy night, a sentinel fired at an imaginary Indian, the drums beat to arms, the troops turned out, and a militia colonel, (he was *not* a native of Michigan,) who lived at a distance from the quarters of the troops, hearing the alarm, seized his port-manteau in one hand, and the *muzzle* of a musket with the other, and ran at full speed to the guard house, dragging the *butt* of his gun in the mud. He kept on his headlong way until, encountering a small shade tree, it bent away before him, and he slid up to the limbs, but the recoil of the sapling left the gallant warrior flat on his back in the mud. The pickets remained around the town when the war of 1812 began.

In 1814, Gen. Cass, then a general officer in the army, was in command on this frontier, with a body of troops to protect the country. Our army on the Niagara frontier was hard pressed, and the General, unsolicited, sent to Gen. Brown *all* his force; only a dozen or so of invalids, unfit for service, re-