

alarm the Americans, until they should be well upon the difficult part of the rapid; then a single shot would throw them into confusion, when they could not well escape.

Captain Graham reached the place in time to effect his arrangements. The enemy arrived at the foot of the rapids too late in the day to undertake to ascend the difficult channel. They accordingly anchored in the stream, and thus my plan was thwarted. A young Indian, whose brother had been killed by the enemy a few days before, took the first chance which offered for revenge. He made his way at night to one of the gun-boats, and drove his lance through one of the sentries, killing him on the spot, and then making his escape, singing his war-song, and thus arousing friends and foes.

The next morning the American commodore had at the mast head of his vessel, the ominous words—"No Quarters." So our swivel began to play upon them; they took the alarm, cut their cables, and the whole fleet was soon on its back track for St. Louis.

It was necessary to make extensive repairs at Fort McKay to render our position comfortable for the winter. Provisions were to be previously supplied by the traders and farmers; the meat rations of game and fish. I had no military chest; but my credit was unbounded. I did not know anything about the mode of keeping army accounts, nor was I practiced in military regulations. I, therefore, reported these circumstances, and at the same time, recommended the bombardier, who had contributed so much to our success, for promotion. I sent off an express, in a light canoe, with this report, addressed to Lieut. Col. Robert McDouall, commanding at Mackinaw and its dependencies. Within a month, I received a very satisfactory reply; Captain Bulger, of the Newfoundland Regiment, was sent to relieve me in the command; and James Keating, late bombardier, was promoted to fort adjutant, and a contractor was appointed to supply rations.

Captain Bulger set to work, and in a very few days had all my accounts properly prepared; and though he commanded the garrison, I was the prime mover of all. Everything passed off with much glee; the officers and traders gave balls at least three times