

friend and fellow campaigner of mine), has been killed, & also Major-Gen'l's Gibbs & Keane. The American General Jackson says we have lost 3000 in killed, wounded & missing—I trust much exaggerated. Major-Gen'l Lambert (according to last accounts) commanded our army before New Orleans.

The plan for re-enforcing our Naval Forces on the Lake has changed. Instead of a ship, two large schooners, & five or six gun-boats heavily armed were to be built, but I am apprehensive, that few will be completed by the opening of navigation. Fifty more of your Regt are coming up here under Capt. Skinner; a re-enforcement not at all adequate to the formidable force with which we are likely to be attacked. Great preparations were making at Detroit for that purpose—building boats &c., &c., & they talk of bringing a force of from two to three thousand men. I trust I shall yet have a large re-enforcement, which I have pressingly applied for. I shall do for you what is possible; but here the enemy must be beat, or all fails. The Indians, however, are here, all staunch, & I am most happy to say that Colonel McKay arrived to-day, who is to be at their head, & is in himself an host. We shall have no more of the wretched drivelling of last summer. A great many canoes will likewise be here in the spring & their crews will probably render us material assistance. A Capt. Colier is appointed to the command of the little navy of this Lake, but it is understood that Worsley will have every chance of being made [commander]. A great contest is going on, both at Kingston, & Sacket's harbour, for the naval preponderance the ensuing campaign, which I trust will be on our side. Exertions on a great scale are also making at Isle aux noix to restore our marine on Lake Champlain, & it is also in contemplation to build on the Grand River in order to recover the command of Lake Erie. It is, however, not unlikely that all these warlike preparations may be suddenly put a stop to, as Col. Foster in a short letter (dated 23rd Feby) just as the Express was coming away, transmitted me a hand bill from Montreal taken from the