

lection of Letters' in the Canadian archives. Captain Bulger, who commanded at Fort McKay (Prairie du Chien) and on the Mississippi, during the period these documents allude to, was the only king's officer stationed at that distant post. He was born at St. John's, Newfoundland, November 30, 1789, and received his commission as ensign October 26, 1804, in the Royal Newfoundland Fencibles, being promoted to the rank of lieutenant July 30, 1806. Having served seven or eight years, on detachment duty, in Newfoundland and the Lower Provinces, he was ordered to Quebec to join the headquarters of the regiment, where he was stationed on the breaking out of the war. The men of the Royal Newfoundland regiment were a fine lot of fellows; most of them being fishermen, they were both sailors and soldiers, and were actively employed as marines on board of armed vessels on the great lakes, serving in almost every engagement on land and water in the upper province. With detachments of his regiment, Lieutenant Bulger served in sixteen engagements. The principal were: Fort Detroit; Fort George; Stony Creek; the attack on the Americans by division of gunboats, November 2, 1813, under Captain Mulcaster, R. N.; Chrystler's Farm; repulse of the Americans at Mackinac, August 4, 1814; the capture by boarding, of the armed schooners 'Tigress' and 'Scorpion' September 3 and 6, 1814. In after years he received two silver war medals and three clasps for these engagements.

"On the twenty-eighth of October, 1814, Lieutenant Bulger was appointed to command of all the operations on the Mississippi, with headquarters at Fort McKay, Prairie du Chien—the local rank of captain was conferred, which was confirmed by general orders on February 23, 1815. Although suffering from an unhealed breast-wound, he embarked immediately for his distant station in an open boat and in severe weather, and assumed command. The garrison at Fort McKay consisted of six officers and 50 men of the Michigan Fencibles, 130 Mississippi Volunteers, and upwards of 40 Canadian *voyageurs*, with a small party of