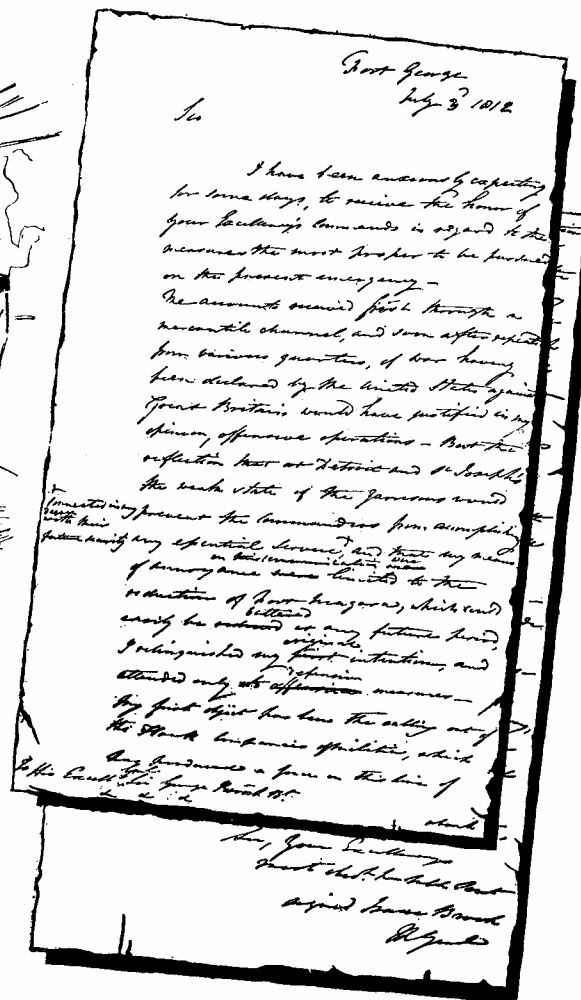
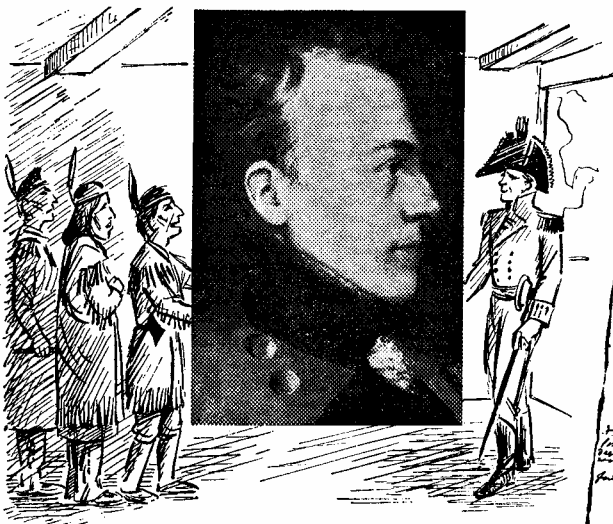


~~~~~FAMOUS LETTERS IN CANADIAN HISTORY~~~~~



## Awaits Order

Isaac Brock wasn't taking any chances.

Reports filtering north through that Spring and Summer of 1812 told of an impending war between Great Britain and the United States. General Brock had the responsibility of guarding the Canadian frontier from attack.

In this letter to Sir George Prevost, the newly-appointed governor of Canada, General Brock makes an assessment of his American opposition which was to be confirmed a month later by his successful assault on Detroit.

Before the year ended, General Brock was to die a hero in the Battle of Queenston Heights and General Prevost was to display some of the

military incompetence which later led to his court martial for mismanaging the campaign after Brock died.

This letter along with Brock's uniform is preserved in the Public Archives of Canada.

### Isaac Brock Assesses American Force

Fort George, July 3, 1812.

Sir:

I have been anxiously expecting for some days to receive the honor of your excellency's commands in regard to the measures the most proper to be pursued in the present emergency.

The accounts received first through a mercantile channel and soon after repeated from various quarters of war having been declared by the United States against Great Britain would have justified in my opinion offensive operations — but the reflection that at Detroit and St. Joseph's the

weakened state of the garrisons would prevent the commanders from accomplishing any essential service connected in any degree with their future security and that any means of annoyance on their communications were limited to the reduction of Fort Niagara which could easily be battered at any future period I relinquished my original intentions and attended only to defensive measures. . . .

I have the honor to be Sir, Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Humble Servant.

Signed: ISAAC BROCK.