

orders to Hampton, as commander-in-chief of the northern army. This aroused the ire of the old aristocrat, whose landed possessions in South Carolina and Louisiana were almost princely, and whose slaves were numbered by thousands. His anger was intensified by his hatred of Wilkinson, and he immediately wrote to the secretary of war insisting that his was a separate command, and tendering his resignation in the event of his being compelled to act under Wilkinson. Wilkinson at the same time was distrustful of the secretary, and evidently quite as jealous of his own rights, for on the twenty-fourth of August he wrote to the secretary of war, saying: 'I trust you will not interfere with my arrangements, or give orders within the district of my command, but to myself, because it would impair my authority and distract the public service. Two heads on the same shoulders make a monster.' 'Unhappily for the country,' says Ingersoll, 'that deplorable campaign was a monster with three heads, biting and barking at one another with a madness which destroyed them all and disgusted the country.'"

"General Wilkinson arrived at Sackett's Harbor late in August, and found himself nominally in command of between twelve and fourteen thousand troops, four thousand of them, under Hampton, at Burlington, [Vermont,] composing the right wing, and the remainder equally divided between Sackett's Harbor, the center, and Fort George, the left wing. But his real effective force did not exceed nine thousand men. It had been a sickly summer on the frontier, especially on the Canadian peninsula, and the hospitals were full. The British force opposed to him amounted to about eight thousand. Their right was on Burlington Heights, their center at Kingston, and their left at Montreal.

"On the twenty-eighth of August, General Wilkinson called a council of his officers. It was attended by Major-General Morgan Lewis, Brigadier-General John P. Boyd, and Quartermaster-General Robert Swartwout, and Commodore Isaac Chauncey. It was determined to concentrate at Sackett's Harbor all the troops of that department except those on Lake Champlain, preparatory to striking 'a deadly blow somewhere.'"

"The right wing of the army, under General Hampton, was first put in motion, when it was thought that Kingston would be the first point of attack. He was ordered to penetrate Canada toward Montreal by way of the Richelieu or Sorel, to divert the attention of the enemy in that direction."¹

"After much discussion at Sackett's Harbor between the secretary of war, General Wilkinson, and others, it was determined to pass Kingston and make a descent upon Montreal. For weeks the bustle of preparation had been great, and many armed boats and transports had been built at the harbor. Every-

¹The pictorial field-book of the war of 1812. By Benson J. Lossing, pp. 575, 576, 629, 630, 631, 642, 645.