

By WILLIAM HULL, BRIGADIER GENERAL AND
COMMANDER OF THE NORTHWESTERN
ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
A PROCLAMATION.

Inhabitants of Canada! After thirty years of Peace and Prosperity, the United States have been driven to Arms, The injuries and aggressions, the insults and indignities of Great Britain have *once more* left them no alternative but manly resistance or unconditional submission. The Army under my command has invaded your Country and the standard of the United states waves on the territory of Canada To the peaceable unoffending inhabitant, It brings neither danger nor difficulty. I come to find enemies not to *make* them. I come to *protect* not to *injure* you.

Separated by an immense ocean and an extensive Wilderness from Great Britain you have no participation in her Councils no interest in her Conduct; You have felt her Tyranny, you have seen her injustice, but I do not ask *you* to avenge the one or to redress the other. The United States are sufficiently powerful to afford you every security consistent with their rights & your expectation, I tender you the invaluable blessings of Civil, Political, & Religious Liberty, and their necessary re-

sults, individual, and General prosperity; That liberty which gave decision to our Councils and energy to our conduct in our struggle for Independence, and which conducted us safely and triumphantly thro' the stormy period of the Revolution.

The Liberty which has raised us to an elevated rank among the Nations of the world and which has afforded us a greater measure of Peace & security wealth and prosperity than ever fell to the Lot of any people.

In the name of my *Country* and by the Authority of my Government I promise you protection to your *persons, property, and rights*. Remain at your homes, pursue your Customary and peaceful avocations, Raise not your hands against your bretheren, Many of our fathers fought for the freedom & *Independence* we now enjoy, Being Children therefore of the same family with us, and heirs to the same heritage, the arrival of an army of Friends must be hailed by you with a Cordial Welcome, You will be emancipated from Tyranny and oppression and restored to the dignified station of freemen. Had I any doubt of eventual success I might ask your assistance but I do not. I come prepared for every Contingency. I have a force which look down all opposition and that force is but the vanguard of a much greater. If contrary to your own interests & the just expectation of my country, you should take part in the approaching contest, you will be considered and treated as enemies and the horrors, and calamities of war will stalk before you.

If the barbarous and Savage policy of Great Britain be pursued, and the savages are let loose to murder our

Citizens and butcher our women and children, this war will be a war of extermination.

The first stroke with the Tomahawk the first attempt with the scalping Knife will be the signal for one indiscriminate scene of desolation, *No White man found fighting by the side of an Indian will be taken prisoner* Instant destruction will be his lot. If the dictates of reason, duty, justice, and humanity, cannot prevail the employment of a force, which respects no rights & Knows no wrong, it will be prevented by a severe and relentless system of retaliation.

I doubt not your courage and firmness; I will not doubt your attachment to + + Liberty. If you tender your services voluntarily they will be accepted readily.

The United States offer you *Peace, Liberty, and Security* your choice lies between these, & *War, Slavery, and destruction*, Choose then, but choose wisely; and may he who knows the justice of our cause, and who holds in his hands the fate of Nations, guide you to a result the most compatible, with your rights and interests, your peace and prosperity.

(signed)

WM HULL

By the General

A.Q.Null

Cap: 13 U S Regt of Infantry by A.D.C

Headquarters at Sandwich

July 13th 1812

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