

the Highlands, and the state of Vermont. General Wade Hampton, who had been stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, was also transferred to the ninth military district. "Unfortunately for the good of the public service," these veteran officers of the war of the Revolution, "were now bitter enemies, and so jealous of each other that they would not co-operate," as it will be seen, "at a critical moment."

General Wilkinson on his arrival at Washington, on the thirty-first of July, was cordially received by the secretary of war and President Madison. The general having been "formally invested with the power of commander-in-chief of the army of the north, a plan of the proposed operations of that army during the remainder of the campaign, which the secretary had laid before the cabinet on the twenty-third of July, was presented to him for consideration, with an expressed desire that if he should perceive anything objectionable in the plan he would freely suggest modifications.

"At the beginning of the campaign the secretary was anxious to secure the control of the St. Lawrence River by the capture of Kingston, but circumstances had prevented it. That project was now revived, and had received the approval of the cabinet." It did not, however, strike General Wilkinson favorably, and he suggested modifications.

"The secretary of war, always impatient when his opinions were disputed, at once conceived a dislike of his old companion in arms, whom he had invited so kindly to come north and win laurels, and from that time a widening estrangement existed. Long years afterward the secretary wrote: 'This strategic labor of the general had no tendency to increase the executive confidence in either his professional knowledge or judgment. Still the president hoped that if the opinions it contained were mildly rebuked, the general would abandon them, and, after joining the army, would hasten to execute the plan already communicated to him.'

The secretary of war "replied courteously to Wilkinson. He adhered to his own plan, but allowed that the fall of Kingston and the attainment of the control of the St. Lawrence might be as effectually accomplished indirectly by a quick movement down the river against Montreal, masked by a feigned attack on the former place. But he decidedly objected to any further movements against the enemy on the Canadian peninsula, as they would but 'wound the tail of the lion,' and Wilkinson departed for Sackett's Harbor [on the eleventh of August] without any definite plan of operations determined upon, while the secretary of war sent instructions to Brigadier-General John P. Boyd to keep within his lines at Fort George, and simply hold the enemy at bay, notwithstanding the American force was much larger than that of the British."

"On his way to Sackett's Harbor, Wilkinson sent from Albany his first