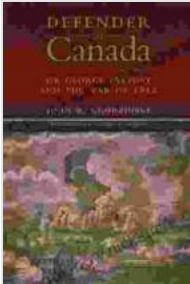


# Sir George Prevost and the War of 1812: Campaigns and Commanders



## Defender of Canada: Sir George Prevost and the War of 1812 (Campaigns and Commanders Series Book 40)

by John R. Grodzinski

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Sir George Prevost was the British commander-in-chief in North America during the War of 1812. He was a controversial figure, and his decisions often had a significant impact on the course of the war. This article will explore Prevost's life, career, and role in the War of 1812.

## Early Life and Career

George Prevost was born in New Jersey in 1767. He was the son of a British army officer, and he joined the army himself at the age of 16. Prevost served in the West Indies and Europe, and he rose through the ranks quickly. By 1811, he was a lieutenant general and the commander-in-chief of the British forces in North America.

## The War of 1812

The War of 1812 began in June 1812, when the United States declared war on Great Britain. Prevost was responsible for defending British North America from the American invasion. He had a force of about 7,000 regular soldiers and 10,000 militia. The Americans had a much larger force, but they were not as well-trained or equipped.

Prevost's first major campaign was the invasion of New York. He led a force of about 10,000 men across the Niagara River and into New York State. The Americans were defeated at the Battle of Queenston Heights, but Prevost decided to withdraw his troops after the battle. This decision has been criticized by some historians, who believe that Prevost could have won the war if he had pressed on.

Prevost's next major campaign was the defense of Canada. In 1813, the Americans launched a major invasion of Canada. Prevost led the British forces to victory at the Battle of Crysler's Farm, and he was able to prevent the Americans from capturing Montreal or Quebec City.

In 1814, Prevost launched a major offensive against the United States. He led a force of about 10,000 men into New York State and captured the city of Plattsburgh. However, Prevost was defeated by the American forces at the Battle of Plattsburgh, and he was forced to retreat to Canada.

### **Aftermath of the War**

The War of 1812 ended in December 1814, with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent. Prevost was recalled to England after the war, and he died in 1816.

### **Legacy**

Sir George Prevost was a controversial figure, and his decisions often had a significant impact on the course of the War of 1812. He was a skilled military commander, but he was also indecisive and overly cautious. He was also criticized for his lack of initiative and his poor relations with the American government.

Despite his shortcomings, Prevost was a key figure in the War of 1812. He defended Canada from the American invasion, and he helped to secure a favorable peace treaty for Great Britain.

## **Campaigns and Commanders**

- Invasion of New York
- Defense of Canada
- Offensive Against the United States

## **Invasion of New York**

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## **Commanders:**

- **British:** Sir George Prevost
- **American:** Major General Henry Dearborn

## **Defense of Canada**

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### Commanders:

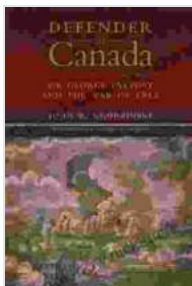
- **British:** Sir George Prevost
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### Offensive Against the United States

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