

was quartered at Grand Pre, in a very loose, ill-contriv'd, scattered situation, but upon alarm to repair to the main guard; col. Noble superseded col. Gorham in the chief command; Gorham and major Phillips with a small escorte set out for Annapolis, Jan. 29; they were but nine miles on their way, when the French began their attack.

The French, well informed of our scattered situation, as to cantonment, and not regularly provided with ammunition and provision, set out from Chiconicto, Jan. 8, for Minas, which by heading of creeks and rivers is about 30 leagues distance, and by excursions to bring along as many of the settlers and Indians as possible, did not arrive at Minas until Jan. 31, and began about three hours in the morning by many distant attacks or onsets at the same time, in parties of 70 to 50 men; they were about 600 of the enemy, Canadians, inhabitants, and French Indians; they killed many of our men in a most inhumane base manner; col. Noble, lieuts. Lechemore (nephew to the late lord Lechemore) Jones, Pickering, ensign Noble, with about 70 serjeants, corporals, and private men; made prisoners capt. Doane, lieut. Gerrish, and ensign Newton, in all about 69 men, the wounded included; many of the prisoners were set at liberty.

The French were well provided with snow-shoes; this necessary winter-marching article we neglected: however, a considerable number of our men got together, but as they had not exceeding 8 shot per man, and provisions being scanty, they capitulated, 1. We are to march off with arms shouldered, drums beating, colours flying, through a lane of the enemy with rested firelocks. 2. To be allowed six days provision, one pound of powder, with ball. 3. Not to carry arms in the bays of Minas and Chiconicto for six months.

De Ramsay being lame was not in this onset, M. Culon had the command; and after Culon was wounded, M. La Corne commanded; this affair being over, they returned to Chiconicto, and expecting La Jonquiere's squadron with land-forces from France in the summer, they