

Preface

have given you, dear William, a rather lengthy detail, from which you may extract whatever you like for publication. As you know, I was present through the siege and myself saw very nearly everything I have here described.

"Your affectionate grandmother,

"E. JOHNSTON."

"HALIFAX, *July 12, 1848.*"

"It will be observed that the war which had opened in Massachusetts was steadily drifting southward. Great campaigns had been fought in what are known as the Middle States, which continued to be the theatre of operations for several years. In the extreme South, matters were in a deplorable condition. Tories were numerous, and in many places civil war reigned. The patriots were so few in numbers that the enemy prepared a careful campaign for the capture of Savannah and the conquest of Georgia. Five thousand additional troops were to be landed at Charleston, and a strong force of Indians was to be brought from Florida and Alabama to assail the frontier settlements, while the commandant at Detroit was to send others to join them from the Northwest.

"General Prevost, who was in command of a mingled force of regulars, Tories, and Indians in East Florida, sent two expeditions in the autumn of the year 1778 from St. Augustine, Florida. They committed many outrages and brought away an enormous amount of plunder. In the latter part of November, Clinton despatched Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, with two thousand troops, to invade Georgia. The troops went by the sea and landed at Sa-