

strength was re-established, to allow them to fly and join the army ; we readily agreed to it, and furnished them with clothing and provisions, to enable them to accomplish their object, which drew upon us the most severe reproaches and menaces from the enemy. They threatened to allow us to die from starvation.

As our house was still full of sick, the Grand Vicar, who attended closely to our welfare, removed several of the Almoners, who contributed to embarrass us, from the scarcity of provisions. He and the reverend Mr. De Rigauville, our Chaplain, administered to the sick, and attended them in their last moments, night and day.

We have at this time upwards of two hundred English, who occupy our dining rooms and dormitories ; and as many French, in our infirmaries, leaving us merely one small room to retire into. There assembled, and left to our reflections, we anticipated the worst. All communication with our friends being interrupted, we knew not what was passing in the upper parts. Our enemies, better informed, announced the approach of our army ; the measures they adopted, and the additional fortifications they constructed in Quebec, supported by a strong garrison, caused us to dread the result of the struggle. On our side we had false prophets ; women painting in their imaginations sieges, without mortars or cannon ; the town taken by assault. Nothing more was required to stir and animate those who were eager for the fray.

As soon as the season appeared suitable for campaigning, our army followed the ice, scantily provided with provisions, and still less with artillery suited for