

in the neighbouring provinces ; and no little alarm and discontent throughout the continent, when the vast expectations excited by D'Eſtaing were contrasted with his failure, and the successes of the British arms under Sir Henry Clinton.

As no doubt was entertained that he would lose no opportunity of improving them to the utmost, great pains were taken by the Americans to collect with all possible speed, a force sufficient to make some stand, till a proper army could be formed. To this purpose detachments from several parts were drawn to the borders of North Carolina, where it was naturally expected the motions of the British army would next be directed.

On receiving this intelligence, Lord Cornwallis marched up the country situated along the banks of the river Santee. The enemy were posted at a place called Wacſaw, on the boundary line between North and South Carolina, distant from him upwards of one hundred miles. Colonel Tarleton was again selected to command a chosen body, in order to attack them before they could be reinforced. He travelled with such expedition, that he reached them on the third day of his march. Upon refusing to surrender on the terms he proffered, which were the same that had been granted to the garrison of Charles Town, he attacked them with so much courage and skill, that they were nearly all either killed in the action, or wounded and made prisoners, with all their artillery and baggage. This was the third victory obtained by means of the British cavalry, commanded by Colonel Tarleton. Their numbers both in this and the foregoing engagements, were inferior to those of the enemy ; but the men were chosen troopers, and admirably expert at the management of their horses and arms.

This action decided for the present the fate of Carolina. The bravery exhibited by the British troops during