

14th.—No less than fifty men this day frost-bitten on the wooding and sleying parties.

15th.—Notwithstanding every measure has been taken to encourage the Canadians to be active in bringing in the wood, yet that affair goes on very slowly—whether from the natural sloth of the people, not much used to work, or from disaffection, cannot well be said. To accelerate, therefore, this necessary business, and make a sufficient provision against the spring, when, by reason of the thaws and quantities of ice that come down, the rivers are not navigable nor the roads practicable, I stopt delivering any out of the store, and obliged the regiments to furnish themselves, having for that purpose provided them with sleys, and ordered out parties to cover them every day.

17th.—The weather being very bad, the men having received no clothing this year, and there being no pay for them, I thought it a proper encouragement to promise them five shillings per cord for all the wood they should sley in ; 65 men having been frost-bit besides the foregoing 50.

20th.—About this time the detachment from the Island of Orleans returned ; several of the men frost-bit.

22nd.—Ordered several roads about the town to be marked with beacons all along.

24th.—From the 17th to the 24th Dec., 153 have been frost-bit : this happens always on the sleying parties ; nor is there any possibility to avoid them, as, notwithstanding every measure taken and the diligence of the officers, whose particular province it is, the Canadian horses do not bring in a sufficient quantity to provide for the present or against the spring.

25th.—This day, Captain Leslie returned from his expedition down the south shore. Every officer and soldier of the party has been frost-bit more or less, but none dangerously, except two. He has not been able to proceed