

be the reverse, if I find no other means can preserve the province."

Haldimand, in 1779, made the first attempt to establish a library at Quebec. The money having been collected, he wrote to Richard Cumberland, the dramatist, asking him to intervene to obtain the volumes.* Five cases containing the books were sent from London the following year, and they formed the commencement of the library which subsequently came into the possession of the literary and historical society of that city.

In Montreal the officers in garrison made some efforts to amuse themselves. In 1779, there had been an entertainment, the deficiencies of which had been the want of female performers, and a proper house where they could "set up a theatre in earnest." Colonel McLean asked for the use of the jesuits' old vestibule for the purpose, the performance to be on the footing of the old "Edinburg theatre." The attraction was a concert of vocal and instrumental music, and the play to be acted was Molière's "*Les Fourberies de Scapin*." It was the first occasion that any one of the great French dramatist's works was played in Canada. I almost feel justified in adding that it was also the last.

In 1780, the seigniory of Sorel was purchased by the British government for £3,300 sterling, to admit of Sorel being taken possession of, and fortifications and barracks constructed, without interference with private rights. A house was also purchased in Montreal as a residence for the governor, at a cost of two thousand guineas.

Several expeditions were undertaken to destroy the resources by which the threatened attack on the province could be maintained. They were especially directed to the Mohawk valley, in order to make attempt from that quarter upon Niagara impossible, by the destruction of the supplies it could furnish. After the opening of the navigation, Sir John Johnson passed from lake Champlain into the Mohawk

* Haldimand to Richard Cumberland. [Can. Arch., B. 54, p. 166, 13th of September, 1779.]

district with
of his design
were desired
panied by
in the expedi
live stock.

700 men were
having accom
the congress
Crown Point
embarkation

The letter
shewed little
be experienced
were to be
was to be
had enough
to the West
probably de
was by no m
not would a
on the cont
made by Ha
command to
placently po
province, esp
be assailed.

Haldimand in
No letter
character of
reader, that t
view of its be
expectation t
entirely at var
of the conditi

The danger
the feeling an