

vested. All these circumstances the General considered; but the desire he had to act in conformity to the King's intentions, induced him to make this trial; persuaded, that a victorious army finds no difficulties.

Immediately after this check, the General sent Brigadier *Murray* above the town, with 1200 men, in 20 flat bottom boats, up the river; directing him to assist Rear Admiral *Holmes* (who had been reinforced by the *Lowestoffe*, and *Hunter* sloop, with two armed sloops, and two catts) in the destruction of the *French* ships, if they could be got at, in order to open a communication with General *Amberst*. The Brigadier was to seek every favourable opportunity of fighting some of the enemy's detachments, provided he could do it on tolerable terms, and to use all the means in his power to provoke them to attack him. He made two different attempts to land upon the north shore, without success; but in a third was more fortunate: he landed, unexpectedly, at *de Chambaud*, and burnt a magazine there, in which were some provisions, some ammunition, and all the spare stores, cloathing, arms, and baggage of their army. The prisoners he took informed him of the surrender of the fort of *Niagara*; and we discovered, by intercepted letters, that the enemy had abandoned *Carillon* and *Crown Point*; were retired to the isle *Aux Neix*; and that General *Amberst* was preparing to pass the lake *Champlaine*, to fall on M. *Burlemaque's* corps, which consisted of three battalions of foot, and as many *Canadians* as make the whole amount to 3000.

On the 29th, at night, the Admiral sent up the *Sea-Horse*, and two armed sloops, with two catts laden with provisions, to join Admiral *Holmes* above the town.

General *Wolfe* was attacked with a fever, when, after ten days, he found himself so ill and weak, that he desired the general officers to consult together for the public utility. They were all of opinion, that (as more ships and provisions had now got above the town) they should try, by conveying up a corps of 4 or 5000 men (which was nearly the whole strength of the army, after the points of *Levi* and *Orleans* are left in a proper state of defence) to draw the enemy from their present situation, and bring them to an action; to which the General acquiesced.

Admiral *Saunders* and General *Wolfe* examined the town, with a view to a general assault; but after consulting with Major *Mackellar*, the Chief Engineer, who is well acquainted with the interior parts of it, and after viewing it with the utmost attention, we found, that though the batteries of the lower town might be easily silenced by the men of war,