

1755. the navigation, and enured to hardships. For this service General Shirley had engaged all the young men in the county of Albany, who formerly had been employed in the Indian trade at Oswego; and a vast number of battoes were prepared for the conveyance of the troops, stores, and provisions.

OSWEGO was formerly garrisoned by twenty-five men; but on the commencement of our present disputes, the number was augmented to fifty. Early this spring fifty more were ordered up: and about the latter end of May, Capt. Bradstreet arrived there with 200, besides workmen to be employed in the naval preparations, pursuant to the scheme concerted in the congress of commissioners at Albany the last summer.

Troops  
proceed to  
that gar-  
rison.

COL. SCHUYLER'S New Jersey regiment embarked in two divisions from Schenectady, the beginning of July. Shirley's and Pepperell's were preparing to follow, when the melancholy news of Gen. Braddock's defeat reached that place. This struck a general damp on the spirits of the soldiers, and many deserted. Great numbers of the battoe-men dispersed themselves into the country, and fled to their respective habitations. To engage the return  
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