Allen had confidence in the courage and judgment of Brown, and agreed to the proposition. Allen was to return to Longueuil, procure canoes, and cross the St. Lawrence with his troops below the city, while Brown was to cross above the town, with 200 men, and the attack was to be made at opposite points simultaneously.

On October 24th, 1775, Allen crossed the river at night, the weather was rough and windy, and so few were his canoes, that they had to cross three times, yet the whole party were safely carried over before daylight. At dawn Allen expected to hear the signal of Brown, but the morning advanced, and it was evident that the latter had not crossed over. Guards were placed upon the road, to prevent intelligence being carried into the town, and Allen would have retreated if his boats could have carried all over at once.

But the landing of Allen was soon announced to General Carleton, who assembled 30 British regulars and 200 of the Canadian militia, under the command of Major Carden, who marched to Longue Pointe, where the Americans were posted, and after a smart engagement, during which Allen and his men showed great bravery, the whole party were taken prisoners.

They were marched to Montreal, and the officers acted very civilly towards them, but when they were delivered into the custody of General Prescott, they experienced (it is said) very harsh treatment at his hands. On learning from Allen, that he was the same man who had captured Ticonderoga, Prescott was greatly enraged, threatening to hang him, and ordered him to be bound in irons, and placed on board the "Gaspe" war schooner.

He remained five weeks in irons, aboard the Gaspe, at Montreal, and when Carleton was repulsed at Longueuil, by Warner, as previously stated, the Vessel was sent down to Quebec, there he was transferred on board another vessel, and treated humanely, and was ultimately sent to England, to be tried for treason.