

Clinton to make every diversion in his power in favour of the northern army.

Sir George Osborne was next examined in his place by Sir William Howe, in order to wipe away all imputation of want of generalship in extending too far his cantonments in the Jerseys, by which the loss at Trenton was sustained. Sir William asked Sir George, if he remembered Colonel Donop to have said any thing relative to that affair: he replied, that Colonel Donop had said, that if Colonel Rhal had observed the instructions given to him from Sir William Howe, it would have been impossible for his enemy to force his brigade before him (Colonel Donop) should have brought him a re-inforcement. He was next asked what orders he (Sir George) had received the night before the action at German-Town. The orders were, he replied to march the brigade of guards half a mile in front of the line of infantry; and with those orders intimation had been given him that he would find himself attacked at break of day by the enemy. Sir Richard Sutton asked, how far the enemy had marched in order to attack our post at German-town? The answer was---About nine or ten miles. How far our troops had marched in order to sustain the force at German-town?---Answer---About five miles. On the difference in the length of the marches, and the greater or lesser degree of fatigue occasioned by them, was grounded the following question put by Sir Richard: were the enemy better able after a march of ten miles to retreat, than our troops after a march of five to pursue? To that question Sir George declined giving any answer.

Governor Johnston asked if our troops at German-town had been surprised? Sir George could answer for those only under his own command; and he flattered himself that after the information of an intended attack at day-break, the Committee would do him the justice to suppose that he had not been surprised. Was any part of the army surprised? I cannot tell. Were the Hessians to the left surprised? I do not know. Was their commander Lieutenant-general Knyphausen apprised of the probability of our attack? I do not know; the General certainly did not communicate to him, a Lieutenant-colonel only, the commands given to general officers. Did he learn from conversation with officers after the action, that a part of the army had been surprised? A direct answer was not given; but Sir George said that he learned from the conversation of the officers, that they were well satisfied with the care the General took of his army.

*Evidence on the Canada Expedition, under the Command of General Burgoyne.*

The evidence on the part of Lord and Sir William Howe being closed, General Burgoyne informed the Committee, that he had summoned witnesses to be ready to give evidence on that part of the enquiry which related to the Canada expedition; he then desired Sir Guy Carleton might be called in.

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