

it not unavoidable, possibly have been chosen on the following account,— That had the general pressed the enemy in their retreat before him, he would, in a sort, have compelled them to go to the capital city, to add great numbers and strength to the great army already there; and hereby, perhaps, have given an opportunity, and enabled them, to defeat and overthrow the little British army besieging it; before it would have been possible for him to join it, which would have frustrated the grand design. For it would, on account of the narrowness, or land-carriage in the way, have been seemingly impossible for this western army to get to the capital, till some weeks after the flying enemy. But all this is only conjecture.

AND I am now, almost before I was aware of it, tho' perhaps after too long a delay, got to the chief scene of action; where our most signal success has been; and where you will allow me to tarry a little longer than at either of the former places. I am even still almost "as one that dreameth," when I think of the surrender of the capital of Canada, which is in effect the reduction of the whole country. For it is morally, if not naturally impossible, that the enemy, having lost this city, which is now in our possession, should hold out half another campaign, against a force much inferior to that, which his Majesty has already in North-America. Yea, it is almost certain, that after taking the capital, laying waste the country, burning so many of the houses, taking or destroying so great a part of the stock, stores and magazines; it is almost certain, I say, after this, that a great part of the enemy, who pretend still to stand out, must either come in, and submit to the generous terms offered them, or else, before another spring, perish by hunger and cold, with their unhappy wives and