

In 1825, William L. Mackenzie described the road between York and Kingston, as among the worst that human foot ever trod, and down to the latest day before the railroad era, the travellers in the Canadian stage-coach were lucky, if, when a hill had to be ascended, or a bad spot passed, they had not to alight and trudge arkle-deep through the mud. The rate at which it was possible to travel in stage-coaches depended on the elements. In the spring, when the roads were water-choked and rut-gallied, the rate might be reduced to two miles an hour for several miles on the worst sections. The coaches were liable to be imbedded in the mud, and the passengers had to dismount and assist in prying them out by means of rails obtained from the fences.

TICONDEROGA.—The easy capture of this strong fortress at the beginning of the Revolutionary War by Colonel Ethan Allen has been one of the puzzles of historians, and many have been at attempts to account for the total surprise on the part of the officers of the garrison. The following tradition is one of the many, and may be as true as some of those credited by the scholars and writers. — Elephalet Loud, Esq., one of the most important men of his day in this town (Weymouth, Mass.), a man of unusual ability and education, was a soldier on that occasion, and a verbal tradition current in his family, says that, on the evening before the capture, the English and American officers were engaged in a social entertainment, at which the American officers, with the attempt on view, plied their English associates most plentifully with liquor, while they, knowing the necessity for cool head, poured theirs down their bosoms, and the result was what might be expected, a total surprise. The old gentlemen always expressed the regret that these American officers must have felt at the *waste* of so much good liquor but the success gratified it.—NASH, in the *Magazine of American History*, vol. XV, p. 311.

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## NOTES AND QUERIES

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### QUESTIONS

93. WHO LED THE TROOPS IN THE FINAL UNSUCCESSFUL CHARGE AFTER ARNOLD WAS WOUNDED AT QUEBEC IN 1776?—Will you kindly