

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 29a

To these the Enemy sent the Answers following each article and a letter conceiv'd in these terms.

3<sup>d</sup> The Troops march'd out of the redouts and embark'd for an Encampment of the Rebels two miles above S<sup>t</sup> Johns.

We left in the Forts about 3 days provision, scarce any loose powder, and three Boxes of Ammunition of each gun that was mounted; that is the quantity kept in Case of Storm.

It is remarkable that from the first day of the blockade, we had not a Syllable of Intelligence from Gen<sup>l</sup> Carleton, altho' we sent repeated Messages to Montreal.

The little Execution done in proportion to the number of Shot & Shells fir'd is surprising for we had not above 40 Men kill'd & wounded. that is, during the blockade; in all from the time our taking post at S<sup>t</sup> Johns we had 60 kill'd or wounded. Near 1000 Shot & between 50 & 100 Shells were fir'd at the Redouts the last day. The Men shew'd a cheerfullness under their Fatigues which spite of Events can but reflect honor upon them, as Few cou'd be so devoid of reflexion as not to see how slender our hopes of relief were, and of course to apprehend the most unfavorable Issue.

We may thank our Enemy in some sort for leaving us in such slight field Works the credit of having been only reduc'd by Famine. Had they understood, or been a fit people to carry on obsidional Operations, Their Batterys might with their numbers by means of Approaches have been brought much closer to our Redouts have overlook'd us, destroyed our breastworks, and by a slaughter from which there cou'd have been no Shelter, have render'd our holding out, a meer sacrifice of Men who might have been reserv'd for better Services.

Upon the whole it may be said that the Garrison of S<sup>t</sup> Johns suffer'd in their Misfortunes, dangers and hardships which have often been the price of honor to more fortunate troops.

Narrative  
of  
the siege of S<sup>t</sup> Johns Canada  
Com<sup>d</sup> by Major Sir Chas Preston