

always, however, taking care not to expose his Majesty's troops to being cut off by too extended a line of advance."
 —"At the same time, it is by no means the intention of his Majesty's government to encourage such forward movements into the interior of the American territory, as might commit the safety of the force placed under your command."

It would, indeed, seem that something like a discretion was left him, by the words "if you deem it expedient," &c.;—But if the reader refer to the despatch from Sir George Prevost to earl Bathurst, (Vol. II., page 395,) he will see what at least was expected of that officer, and cannot fail to be convinced that the expedition to Plattsburgh was not a spontaneous enterprise, nor of the planning of the commander of the forces in the Canadas, but in consequence of the orders received to adopt "offensive measures against the enemy." To the above, it may, without impropriety be added, that captain N. Freer, who, during the late war with the United States, filled the confidential and responsible office of military secretary to the commander of the forces in Canada, (and who ever since, continuously to the present day, has been a citizen of Quebec,) as well as the late honble. A. W. Cochran, who during the same period, served as an assistant secretary under Sir George Prevost, and with captain Freer participated largely in his confidence, have both, frequently, to the author's knowledge, been heard to attribute the untoward expedi-