

In M. Badeaux's Journal of the Invasion of Canada in 1775-76 occurs this passage: "I will not fear to insert in this journal facts which I foresee will dishonour the Canadian nation, for I observe already that the Canadians have changed their sentiments in consequence of the letter they have received from the Congress, dated 26th September, 1774, which each interprets according to his own fancy. Heaven grant that I may be mistaken, and that the Canadians may preserve their honour and fidelity."

The following letter addressed to Major Hutchison at Boston, dated at Quebec the 20th July, 1775, takes the same view as that held by Badeaux, and will serve to some extent to account for the rapid success of Montgomery in his first attack on Canada, until checked at Quebec, where the Canadians of that city by their bravery and fidelity defeated the bold attempt that had been made by Montgomery and Arnold to take possession of the Province. The letter was written by Captain Gamble, one of the officers stationed at Quebec, and no doubt represents the military ideas of the time:

"Would you believe it my good friend there is not yet a single Canadian raised, nor is there any appearance of it. These people have lost all their spirit, and seem indeed very averse to fighting, nor can Mr. Carleton get a single regiment of militia to embody. They are all frightened out of their wits, and the most violent of them only talk of defending their own Province. Many of them would lay down their arms to the Yankees did they but appear; in fact the Seigniors have no influence, nor can they command out a single man, but the conversation at the headquarters of the Province is that it's to be hoped in time the Canadians will be prevailed on to take arms in favour of Government. Mr. Carleton, I am told, is very much out of temper and down in the mouth. We are all very anxious to have a certain account of the affair at Bunker's Hill. Mr. Carleton is expected down here in a few days, when he will try to embody the militia, but I think you need not expect any diversion in your favour from this Province, and indeed I have my doubts whether they will act spiritedly in it without a body of regular troops to oblige them.

"The enemies of the Quebec Bill, who are many among the British inhabitants, rejoice at the supineness of the Canadians, and you may depend upon it Yankees have had their emissaries among the French, and made them thus lukewarm to Government, besides that it appears a twelve years' peace has extinguished their martial spirit, and that, together with the sweets of a British Government, makes them desire to live in quiet. I am of opinion (and so are many others here) that could the rebels march a body of troops sufficient to overpower the regular troops at St. John's, which only consist of two regiments, they would make a very easy conquest of Canada, but I hope they will have enough to do at home. We tried yesterday to get the British militia of this city and district to assemble, in order to form and have officers appointed, but the very respectable number did not exceed seventy; thus you may see how the English merchant traders and inhabitants are inclined. It is most certain that all winter the people of our Colonies have been corresponding with the Canadian and English people settled here, and I am apt to think that is the cause of their present coolness."

Haldimand who, in order to make up for the loss of his position as commander in North America, had been appointed, in 1775, to the position of Inspector General of the forces in the West Indies, with the pay of Major General, was in