

sale of spirituous liquors, &c., in order to provide a revenue for the support of the civil government.

1775. In January, 1775, a list of letters remaining uncalled for in the Quebec and Montreal Post Offices was published. Among the Quebec addresses occur the names Batiscan, Beauport and St. Charles, whilst the Montreal list includes L'Assomption, St. Sulpice and *Detroit*.—Governor Legge opened the seventh session of the fifth General Assembly of Nova Scotia at Halifax on 12th June; this session closed on 20th July. On 5th July a proclamation was issued by the Governor of Nova Scotia forbidding all persons in the Province from corresponding with, or assisting the rebels in New England.—Attacks were made on various settlements on the Bay of Fundy by parties of New Englanders who established themselves at Machias.—The first congress of the thirteen colonies had met at Philadelphia in September, 1774, and it was now determined, on the proposition of Colonel Arnold, to attempt the conquest of Canada. General Schuyler was appointed to the chief command, and he and General Montgomery advanced against Montreal by way of St. John's. The fort at Chambly was surrendered by Major Stopford almost without a struggle. St. John's held out for over a month, but was at length compelled to surrender. A premature attack on Montreal by Colonel Ethan Allen failed, and Allen was taken prisoner; but a very few days afterwards Montreal opened its gates to Montgomery. General Carleton having been compelled to retreat to Quebec with a remnant of his force, barely sufficient for an escort, Montgomery followed the governor down the St. Lawrence, and entered Three Rivers without resistance, thence proceeding on his way to Quebec, where

he was joined by Colonel Arnold, who had ascended the Kennebec, and the combined force invested Quebec early in December. General Carleton's first care on his return to Quebec was to put the city in a state of defence. The population of Quebec at that time is estimated to have been about 5,000, and the governor was able to collect a force of nearly 1,800 men, consisting of regulars, militia, sailors, &c.; more than 150 pieces of artillery were in position in the upper and lower town. When Montgomery arrived he at once proceeded to invest the city, occupying Beauport, La Canardière and St. Foye, fixing his head quarters at the latter place. The only plan which appeared likely to succeed was to carry the city by a sudden assault, and this General Montgomery determined to attempt. The night of December 30th being dark and stormy, with a heavy fall of snow, was selected for the assault; feints were to be made on the western side of the city, whilst the main body of the enemy was to be divided into two parties, one under Colonel Arnold was to march through the St. Roch suburbs and carry the barricades and batteries at Sault-au-Matlot; whilst Montgomery, descending by Wolfe's Cove, was to force the barrier at Près-de-Ville, and enter the city by way of Champlain Street. These arrangements were all satisfactorily carried out, and by 4 a.m. on 31st December, Montgomery was drawing near to the barrier at Près-de-Ville; this was passed without difficulty; shortly after passing the barrier Montgomery was confronted by a masked battery. He halted for a few moments, then rushed to the assault, but the deadly shower of grape with which he was received broke the head of the column, and so discouraged the enemy that no second attempt was made. Montgomery was