

17th.—The best intelligence was now procured that the French had armed six ships, which had remained in the river last autumn, with two gallies which they had built; that they designed to bring down this squadron, with a number of boats, to transport the troops to the Cap Rouge, where they were to wait the arrival of their ships; also, that they were fortifying the Three Rivers. Upon this I went to reconnoitre the ground, and thought I could not do better than to fortify the Hill, in order to hinder the enemy from landing their cannon in the river, and oblige them to bring it round by land, which, considering the badness of the road, would in that case delay their operations a considerable time.

18th.—Ordered a number of fascine-makers up to the Cap Rouge to be ready to establish that post as soon as the weather would permit, and part of the light infantry to cover them, cantoning for that purpose in the houses thereabouts, to be followed by Major Dalling with the remainder of that corps the next day.

19th.—At break of day Monsieur Herbin, an officer of the colony troops, crossed the river of Cap Rouge over the ice, with sixty men and five or six Indians, with an intention to surprise our party; but being upon their guard, they obliged them to return in a great hurry, having one serjeant killed, three or four of the men wounded, and one of the colony troops taken prisoner; a large party drawn up on the other side, to favour their retreat, also ran for it, our light infantry pursuing them; they were dispersed before Major Irwin, who had marched with some piquets, could arrive; the same day the chief engineer marked the ground for a redoubt on a rising ground advanced beyond the heights, where I designed to establish my lines. This day a schooner was finished and fitted for sea.

20th.—This day the schooner took in her guns and stores, and was fitted for sea.

21st.—The schooner, commanded by Lieut. Fortye, of the 35th, fell down to the Island of Orleans to take in her wood