

Alarm and doubt pervaded the American camp. General Dearborn had been removed from the command, but Boyd, his successor, scarcely seemed more resolute or enterprising. The strength of the British reinforcement was much exaggerated and rendered him apprehensive of an assault. "The enemy are reinforcing every day," wrote an American officer on the 16th July. "We are encircled, they are in our front, the lake in our rear and flanks, and we do not hold any more ground than that on which we stand." "I think our situation very critical," said another. "The enemy are nearly in sight of our pickets. Their force is gaining every day—ours diminishing. We are attacked and harassed every night."

From the same source it is learned that a foraging party was attacked by Indians at Butler's Farm, on the 17th July. Three men were killed and nine wounded, and the detachment sent out to its support revenged themselves by burning Butler's house and farm-buildings. Three days later a detachment of militia was surprised and routed, losing seven of their number, and an entire brigade of more than a thousand men, which marched out hastily to their relief, skirmished fruitlessly for several hours.

A LETTER OF BENEDICT ARNOLD.

By MR. DAVID R. McCORD, M.A., Etc.

Mr. L. O. Armstrong was good enough to send me a photographic copy of the letter of General Benedict Arnold, dated Dead River, Oct. 13, 1775, which had been found among the papers of his late father Judge Armstrong, and which appeared in Vol. I of *CANADIANA*, page 111. I recognized the letter immediately as being one familiar for the last fifty years to the students of this period of American history.