

clothing. Meanwhile, the party under Arnold, or rather that part of it which had successfully overcome difficulties before which a large portion of the expedition shrunk back appalled, reached the St. Lawrence, and, to the astonishment of the inhabitants, appeared before Quebec. Here, however, the want of artillery reduced him to inaction.

Leaving Montreal, Montgomery hastened to join Arnold in front of Quebec, then the capital of the province. Preparations were made to assail the city, which, with equal zeal, was put in a state of defence by Carlton. The works of the invaders were constructed of snow rendered solid by water, but the cannon in their possession proved too light to be effective, and the siege was soon but languishingly prosecuted. This did not suit Montgomery, and a council of war was held, which agreed to his proposition for an assault. This was attempted in two divisions, one under the commander in chief, the other under Arnold. About one hundred of the assailants were slain, among whom was Montgomery. Arnold received a ball in his leg, his most honorable wound. The American prisoners amounted to about three hundred, a number that the invading army could ill spare.

The remnant under Arnold, who succeeded to the command, were withdrawn to a spot about three miles from the city, and posted as advantageously as possible for maintaining the blockade. To the sufferings incident to a Canadian winter, the ravages of disease were now added: the small pox broke out among them with great violence.

Montgomery fell on the last day of the year 1775. How soon the news of this fatal event reached the Congress, we cannot say, but it must have been several weeks afterwards. On the 8th of January, 1776, the Congress resolved that ship builders should be sent immediately from New York and Philadelphia to General Schuyler or the Commander in Chief of the forces at Ticonderoga, to be employed in constructing a number of bateaux, not exceeding one hundred, for transporting troops and their baggage into Canada whenever necessary.

On the same day they ordered a battalion of Canadians to be raised, under the command of James Livingston, and that nine battalions, this included, should be maintained during the year for the defence of Canada. The First Pennsylvania Battalion, Colonel Ball, and the Second New Jersey Battalion, Colonel Maxwell, were selected as part of the force, and ordered to march immediately to Albany, and put themselves under the command of General Schuyler. To complete the number proposed, a battalion was ordered to be raised in New Hampshire, one in Connecticut, and one in New York; two were ordered to be formed out of the troops then in Canada, proper officers for which were to be