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River as possible, and to procure some Intel-
ligence, I sent a Detachment, under the Com-
mand of Col. Carleton, to land at the Point
de Trempe, to attack whatever he might
find there, bring off some Prisoners, and all
the useful Papers he could get. I had been
informed, that a Number of the Inhabitants
of Quebec had retired to that Place, and that
probably, we should find a Magazine of Pro-
visions there.

The Colonel was fired upon by a Body of
Indians the Moment he landed, but they
were soon dispersed and driven into the
Woods: He searched for Magazines, but to
no Purpose, brought off some Prisoners, and
returned with little Loss.

After this Business, I came back to Mont-
morency, where I found, that Brigadier
Townshend had, by a superior Fire, pre-
vented the French from erecting a Battery
on the Bank of the River, from whence they
intended to cannonade our Camp. I now re-
solved to take the first Opportunity which
presented itself, of attacking the Enemy, tho'
posted to great Advantage, and every where
prepared to receive us.

As the Men of War cannot (for want of
a sufficient Depth of Water) come near e-
nough to the Enemy's Intrenchments, to an-
noy them in the least, the Admiral had pre-
pared 2 Transports (drawing but little Wa-
ter) which upon Occasions could be run a-
ground, to favour a Descent. With the Help
of these Vessels, which I understood would
be carried by the Tide close in Shore, I pro-
posed to make myself Master of a detached
Redout near to the Water's Edge, and
whose Situation appeared to be out of Mus-
quet-shot of the Intrenchment upon the Hill:
If the Enemy supported this detached Piece,
it would necessarily bring on an Engagement,
what we most wished for; and if not, I
should have it in my Power to examine their
Situation, so as to be able to determine
where we could best attack them.

Preparations were accordingly made for
an Engagement. The 31st of July, in the
Forenoon, the Boats of the Fleet were filled
with Grenadiers, and a Part of Brigadier
Monckton's Brigade from the Point of Levi:
The two Brigades under the Brigadiers
Townshend and Murray, were ordered to be
in readiness to pass the Ford, when it should
be thought necessary. To facilitate the Pas-
sage of this Corps, the Admiral had placed
the Centurion in the Channel, so that she
might check the Fire of the lower Battery,
which commanded the Ford. This Ship was
of great Use, as her Fire was very judiciously
directed. A great Quantity of Artillery was
placed upon the Eminence, so as to batter
and enfilade the Left of their Intrenchments.

From the Vessel which run a-ground,
nearest in, I observed that the Redout was
too much commanded to be kept without
very great Loss; and the more, as the two
armed Ships could not be brought near e-
nough to cover both with their Artillery and
Musquetry, which I at first conceived they
might. But as the Enemy seemed in some
Confusion, and we were prepared for an
Action, I thought it a proper Time to make
an Attempt upon their Intrenchment. Or-
ders were sent to the Brigadiers General, to
be ready with the Corps under their Com-
mand. Brigadier Monckton to land, and
the Brigadiers Townshend and Murray to
pass the Ford.

At a proper Time of the Tide, the Signal
was made, but in rowing towards the Shore,
many of the Boats grounded upon a Ledge
that runs off a considerable Distance. This
Accident put us in some Disorder, lost a
great Deal of Time, and obliged me to send
an Officer to stop Brigadier Townshend's
March, whom I then observed to be in Mo-
tion. While the Seamen were getting the
Boats off, the Enemy fired a Number of Shells
and Shot, but did no considerable Damage.
As soon as this Disorder could be set a li-
tle to Rights, and the Boats were ranged in a
proper Manner, some of the Officers of the
Navy went in with me, to find a better Place
to land. We took one flat-bottomed Boat
with us to make the Experiment, and as soon
as we had found a fit Part of the Shore, the
Troops were ordered to disembark, thinking
it not yet too late for the Attempt.

The 13 Companies of Grenadiers, and 200
of the 2d Royal American Battalion, got
first on Shore. The Grenadiers were ordered
to form themselves into four distinct Bodies,
and to begin the Attack, supported by Bri-
gadier Monckton's Corps, as soon as the
Troops had passed the Ford, and were at
Hand to assist. But whether from the Noise
and Hurry at Landing, or from some other
Cause, the Grenadiers, instead of forming
themselves, as they were directed, ran on
impetuously towards the Enemy's Intrench-
ments, in the utmost Disorder and Confu-
sion, without waiting for the Corps which
were to sustain them, and join in the At-
tack. Brigadier Monckton was not landed,
and Brigadier Townshend was still at a con-
siderable Distance, tho' upon his March to
join us, in very great Order. The Grena-
diers were checked by the Enemy's first Fire,
and obliged to shelter themselves in, or a-
bout the Redout, which the French aban-
doned upon their Approach. In this Situa-
tion they continued for some Time, unable
to form under so hot a Fire, and having
many gallant Officers wounded, who (care-
less