

recourse to further expedients, will enable us to wait the arrival of the ships, and be it remembered, to the honour of the Highland or 63rd Regiment, commanded by Colonel Fraser, that the non-commissioned officers and private men of that single regiment contributed of that sum £2,000.

28th.—As intelligence had been brought in that the enemy had some thoughts of stirring about Christmas, in order this winter to regain the honour and advantages they had lost this last summer,—to disappoint their designs, as there were no out-works, I resolved to cover the fortifications of the town with a chain of block-houses, which were accordingly begun upon this day. The winter was too severe to imagine they could think of sitting down to a regular siege, supposing they had a sufficient force and artillery for the purpose; and this measure put us *à l'abri d'un coup-de-main*.

30th.—I now sent Captain Leslie with a detachment of 200 men to the southern shore, to disarm the inhabitants and oblige them to take the oath of fidelity. This would have been done sooner could I have spared the men; and from the inclemency of the season, I was obliged to furnish them with snow-shoes, having had lately so great a fall that it had retarded the departure of this detachment for some days. That which had been ever since cutting wood on the Island of Orleans had been recalled, but could not join us for near a month after this, by reason of the badness of the weather, the winter having set in this year rather earlier than usual.

DEC., 1759.]

DEC. 1st.—In order to put off as long as possible the delivery of wood, I had been obliged to permit the pulling-down of several wooden houses in and about the town, as well as all the fences; but now that, from the severity of the weather, that scanty allowance would no longer suffice, I was not a little surprised and mortified that what the navy had delivered to us for four thousand cords, did not, after