

hold himself in readiness to march for its defence with the 44th regiment. My Lord, Mr. Shirley had, several days before \*, advised General Abercrombie to reinforce that garrison with † two battalions at least: and they might have marched immediately, as Bradstreet was ready to convoy the troops, and every magazine, along the passage, plentifully supplied with provisions. But not to anticipate my story;

MR. SHIRLEY arrived at New York on the 4th of July, and waited the arrival of my Lord Loudon, who landed there on the 23d of that month, with Mr. Pownall in his train: but in what character the latter returned a second time from England, was a subject of doubtful conjecture. — His Lordship, regardless of his ease, and the fatigues of a tedious voyage, tarried there but three days; and on the 29th of July reached his head quarters at Albany, when he took upon himself the command of the army.

THE garrison of Oswego consisted now of 1400 men, and about 300 workmen and sailors. Four hundred and eighty-five were posted, in small parties, between that place and Burnet's Field, to maintain an open passage thro' the country of the Six Nations. The 44th and 48th regiments at Albany and Schenectady, with the British troops just arrived, consisted now of 2600 men; and the pro-

\* On the 20th of June, the day after he was superseded.

† Such a reinforcement could easily have been spared for that purpose, Orway's and the Highland regiment being now landed at Albany. And that this necessary step might not be obstructed, General Shirley had, before their arrival, dispatched an express to Oswego, ordering Bradstreet to quicken his return to Schenectady.

vincials,

1756.

*that might have been the case in but to my knowledge it was not so in Aug*

Lord Loudon arrives.

Our present force, and that of the French.

*The 48th Regiment was at Schenectady 40 miles from Albany*

*Oswego & High Landers consisted but of 300 men they without tents or any kind of Equipage it being left behind in the*