

APPENDIX.

and this thro' the negligence, or rather the mercenary and wicked designs of certain persons here, whose business it was to forward them with all possible expedition. The admiral and general, to be sure, were loud in their complaints, not against particular persons only, but the government in general. For the former, in one of his letters to governor Dudley, then in the chair, expresses himself in the following terms: "I concur, says he, with the opinion of all the sea and land officers here, that the *government* of this colony have prejudiced the present expedition, instead of assisting it." And such representations were sent home, of this matter, as left, for some time, impressions on the minds of many persons there, much to the prejudice and disadvantage of this government. As to the negligence, ill designs, or ill conduct of some particular persons; thus far the accusation might possibly be just; which, however, I do not assert. But the imputation, as it respected the government, and people in general, was doubtless a very unworthy one, to say nothing worse of it. No government could well be more zealous in promoting any expedition; all the people in general had the success of it greatly at heart: and it may be added, that as much was done by the government to promote it, as could well be done, considering their circumstances, and that they had little or no previous warning to make the needful preparations. A great genius, Jer. Dummer, Esq; while agent for this province at the court of London, in his excellent defence of our charter, long since did the government and province justice; and wiped off these foul and base aspersions, by setting this matter in a true and clear light.

BUT to whatever cause or causes, the delay of the fleet and army at Boston was owing, the fact is, that they did not proceed from hence on the expedition till July the 30th; much too late for such an enterprise, at such a distance, thro' such a navigation, and in such a country as Canada. The fleet, when it took its departure from hence for the river, consisted of about 68 or 70 sail, having on board 6,463 troops, including the provincials. Being got into the gulph of St. Lawrence, and having taken a French prize, the people of which gave the most discouraging and formidable accounts possible, the admiral in his journal writes thus, August 15th; from whence it will appear, not only how much he was deceived in some respects, but how much he was disconcerted by that means: "Having informed myself