

and that too close at hand. He therefore raised the siege in the utmost hurry and precipitation, leaving behind all his artillery, and a great part of his ammunition and baggage, although Lord Colville, with the rest of the squadron, did not arrive at Quebec until two days after.

After Levi had been compelled to raise the siege of Quebec, Vaudreuil, the Governor of Canada, fixed his head-quarters at Montreal, to make, if possible, a last stand in that place. For this purpose he called in all his posts; and here he collected the whole regular force that remained in Canada. At the same time he endeavoured to keep up the spirits of the people by various rumours and devices, by which he practised on their credulity. But Monsieur Vaudreuil's greatest hope was not in his artifices, nor his force, but in the situation of Canada, which is much more difficult of entry, than when the enemy has once entered it to be conquered. This, at least, must have been the case, at the period of the conquest. On the side where the most considerable part of the British force was to act, it was covered with vast impenetrable woods, morasses, and mountains. The only tolerable entrance to an army, is by the river Saint Lawrence; and the navigation of this river is rendered extremely difficult and hazardous by the number of shallows and falls that lie between the discharge of Ontario and the Isle of Montreal. Vaudreuil was in expectation, that the preparations necessary for conducting an army through such a long and difficult way, would necessarily consume so much of the summer, as not to leave sufficient time for the operations absolutely necessary to reduce the remainder of Canada. He did not apprehend much danger from the garrison at Quebec, which had been weakened by its defeat in the Spring. These considerations gave him some confidence that he might protract the war somewhat longer, and another year might possibly give fortune an opportunity to take some turn in his favour. But Mr. Amherst, whose calm and steady resolution no difficulties could overcome, was taking the most effectual measures to defeat his expectations. His plan was disposed of in this manner. Brigadier-General Murray, had orders to advance towards Montreal, on his side, with all the troops which could be spared from the garrison of Quebec. Colonel Haviland sailed from Crown Point, and took possession of Isle aux Noix, which had been abandoned by the enemy on the 28th of August, and from thence had orders to proceed directly to the City of Montreal. His own army, consisting of about ten thousand men, he proposed to transport by the way of Lake Ontario into the river Saint Lawrence. Thus he proposed entirely to surround the last place of importance which the enemy possessed, and by the motion of three armies, in three such different routes, to render it impossible for them to form an effectual opposition to any of his corps.

Having laid this general plan, he left Schenectady on the frontiers of New-York, on the 21st of June, and passed up the Mohawk's river and down that of the Oneidas, to Oswego, where he arrived on the 9th of July. The army he had collected there, consisted of about ten thousand men, regulars and provincials, Sir William Johnson brought a thousand savages of the Iroquois; the greatest number of that race of men which, at that time, was ever seen in arms in the cause of England. It was a matter of the greatest difficulty to transport so numerous an army, the whole of its artillery, its ammunition, and all its