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But, leaving reflections of this kind to Philosophers or Divines, we must now proceed to give an account of the expedition itself.—The first object was the fortress of Ticonderago. It was strongly fortified ; but being entirely commanded by an eminence called Sugar Hill, a consultation was held among the American officers about fortifying this also. This, however, was judged to be improper, as their fortifications were said to be already too extensive for the number of their men. For this reason, they abandoned the fortress with so much precipitation, that they left behind them most of their military stores. Such of their baggage as could be carried off, were embarked on board of 200 batteaux ; which also carried a large detachment of their forces. These batteaux sailed up the south river in their way to Skeneborough, while the main army took its route to Castletown, in order to reach the same place.

This precipitate and cowardly flight, proved more ruinous to the Americans than a surrender almost upon any terms could have been. They were closely pursued and overtaken both by sea and land. It is not to be supposed, that those who abandoned strong fortifications on the bare approach of an enemy, would make any great resistance in the field. In fact, they did not. Their batteaux and other vessels were all taken or burnt ; and their land forces were utterly defeated and obliged to fly into the woods, where many of them miserably perished.

In the mean time, Colonel Hill was detached with the 9th regiment from Skeneborough towards Fort Anne, in order to intercept the fugitives who fled along the Wood Creek, whilst another part of the army was employed in carrying batteaux over the falls, in order to facilitate their movement to dislodge the enemy from that post. In that expedition, the Colonel was attacked by a party of Americans, consisting, as he supposed, of at least six times the number of his men. But even this vast superiority was not sufficient to give them the victory. After an attack of three hours,