

24th.—In the morning we found five out of the ten French ships wrecked by the bungling management of the French ; for though it blew fresh, yet it could not by any means be called very bad weather. Captain Miller, of the *Racehorse*, went up with the boats manned without my knowledge, and boarded one of the wrecks. Having lighted a fire, he unfortunately blew himself up, his lieutenant, and several of the men ; the rest were taken, as was a schooner which had been stationed above the town to watch the enemy's motions and to make signals. This was the more unfortunate, for these unhappy people were entirely thrown away, the vessels being, to all intents and purposes, already irrecoverably destroyed ; and we now lost the ship-carpenters, who would have been extremely useful in the spring, for the preparations to be made against the ensuing campaign. As the provisions had been landed in so great a hurry, from the necessity of the departure of the shipping, that it was no easy matter to ascertain the quantity, and the commissary having before this represented the necessity of procuring a supply of beef, I this day ordered the Island of Orleans to furnish such a number to the assistant-quarter-master-general, whom I sent there, as he should require, according to their abilities.

25th.—Having intelligence that the merchants, ever greedy of gain, to purchase furs had transmitted a good deal of cash to Montreal, where they were much in want of that commodity, the paper-money, by reason of the ticklish situation of the colony, being in utter disrepute ; and there being by no means in the military chest a sufficiency to defray the contingent expenses of the garrison to procure what was wanted, and effectually to prevent a commerce so destructive to us, I this day published a kind of "proclamation," to encourage the friends and well-wishers of His Majesty to lend what they could afford, for which Colonel Burton (the next officer in command to me) and I gave our bills, to be repaid in six months, with interest at five per cent. This, in a short time, produced us so considerable a sum as £8,000, which, without having