

On the 26th of March, 1777, Germaine wrote to Carleton, that it had been His Majesty's intention, as advised by a letter of the 22nd August previous, sent by Le Maistre, A.D.C., to Carleton, but which had never reached, the vessel carrying it having been thrice driven back by contrary winds, to have detached Burgoyne or some other officer, with all the troops that could be spared from the defence of the Province, to join Howe.

In de Fonblanque's "Political and Military Episodes.....derived from the life, &c.....of Burgoyne," London, 1876, this letter is given professedly in full, (p. 229), but omitting a very material passage, which is here supplied. No charge of bad faith can be brought against Mr. de Fonblanque, as the letter, as it stands, has evidently been copied from the published papers relating to the war. The suppressed passage contains the charge against Carleton, which he so hotly resented. Lord George says:—

"Since I wrote that letter, I have had the mortification to learn, that upon your repassing Lake Champlain, a very considerable number of the insurgents, finding their presence no longer necessary near Ticonderoga, immediately marched from thence and joined the rebel forces in the Provinces of New York and Jersey. That unexpected reinforcement was more particularly unfortunate for us, as it enabled the rebels to break in with some degree of success upon parts of the winter quarters that were taken up by the army under the command of Sir William Howe.

"Upon these accounts and,"

Then follow the words of the printed letter: "With a view of quelling the rebellion as soon as possible" the army is to join Howe, Carleton is to be left with 3,000 men and Burgoyne to take the command of the troops leaving the Province.—(B. 37, p. 159).

Without consulting him in any way, Carleton is ordered to carry out the plan of the campaign as arranged in London; the description of troops to be sent as well as those to be retained for the defence of the Province, being minutely specified. Even the detachments to be sent out were fixed upon, as may be seen by the following detail in Germaine's letter already referred to. (B. 37, p. 161).

"It is His Majesty's pleasure that you detain for the Canadian service:

The 84th Regiment, deducting 100 for the expedition to Mohawk.....	460
Battalion Companies of the 29th and 31st.....	896
34th, deducting 100 for the Mohawk expedition.....	348
Eleven additional companies from Great Britain.....	616
Detachments from the two brigades.....	300
Detachment from the German troops.....	650
Royal Highland Regiment.....	500

3,770