

1781.

British side, is purely defensive, except by scouting parties constantly employed. On the 8th ult., a party of Indians attacked about 40 of the enemy, near German Flats, killed three officers and 19 men, and took eight prisoners. Page 358

September 29, Sketch (in French) of Colonel Connolly's plan transmitted to Quebec by the hands of General Riedesel. His plan was to attack Fort Pitt. Haldimand says (p. 352), in answering Clinton's proposals, that "this great undertaking must have proceeded from persons totally ignorant of the unavoidable difficulties in the way, or influenced by private interested views. Such, there is but too great reason to apprehend, are Mr. Crachan (Croghan) and Mr. Connolly," of whose character he gives an account at p. 357). 359

September 29, Haldimand to Robertson. Has, in consequence of his letter, given Quebec. Pagan leave to take a cargo of grain to New York, but the high price prevents. The quantity of provisions lately arrived, and the good crop will, in the course of the winter, reduce the price of wheat to 4s. or 4s. 6d. a bushel. Should it be desired, he will purchase 100,000 bushels for New York, should transports be sent, but immediate notice must be given. Asks him to keep the matter quiet, for the merchants would keep up the price, and to provide specie for payment. 364

September 30, Same to the same. Will pay attention to General and Madame Quebec. Riedesel. Does not wonder at his anxiety for a settlement of the affair of Vermont. He has carefully avoided desolating the country to keep a door open for reconciliation. Concessions have been made by Congress, yet it appears that the Governor and Council are really inclined to accommodate with Government, on condition that their acquisitions are confirmed to them. Has asked Clinton's concurrence, but if he receive no letter, he (Haldimand) must decide the matter himself. His agents are now in conference with Ira Allen and Fay. 366

P. S. of same date. Agents have returned from the conference with Allen and Fay, who press for the issue of a proclamation, promising to confirm their late assumed territory. Cannot take the responsibility of such a step out of his district and command, but shall promise, till he receives proper authority, that he will consider these territories as belonging to Vermont and protect them. Has sent off a runner to ask Clinton to confirm his promises. 370

September 30, The same to Knyphausen. The detachment of his regiment sent Quebec. back, &c. 369

October 1, The same to Clinton. Sends documents relating to the conference Quebec. with Ira Allen and Fay. His suspicions almost, if not entirely, removed, but the prejudice of a majority and the prevailing influence of Congress may prevent any change for from one to three years. Repeats substantially the contents of the letter to Robertson (p. 366). The effect in New York and New Hampshire of granting Vermont's demands. They are all in rebellion, and "if by sacrificing a part of one to the interests of the other, a reunion of the most valuable with the mother country can be effected, I think it my duty to make the attempt." Will, therefore, issue the proclamation; it is to precede the detachment, which will be sent about the 12th or 14th inst., till which time the meeting of Assembly is put off. No offensive operations will be carried on by this detachment against Vermont; it will distress the other frontiers, showing the Vermont people that it is the intention of the Government to protect