

of 1775, were presented to the Literary and Historical Society by its Honorary President, Dr. James Douglas. The five most important documents are herewith transcribed at length, and the remaining twenty simply noted in their order of sequence.

It appears that John Dyer Mercier and John Halsted, two citizens of Quebec, purchased in the year 1774 a water lot on the River St. Lawrence, under Cape Diamond at Quebec, some distance above the King's Wharf, from Magdelaine Domptail, widow of Hubert Lacroix. On this they constructed a wharf 130 feet long, and in the fall of 1775 put up the frame work of a strong warehouse 128ft. x 40ft.—three stories high. The invasion of the Bostonnais stopped the work of construction by the hurried flight of Messrs. Mercier and Halsted who were Rebels. The former seems to have been a particularly trusted friend of Arnold, who sent him a letter on the 10th October from Dead River by the hands of an Indian named Aeneas, informing Mercier (misspelt Manir) of his coming with 2000 men to attack Quebec, and requested him to forward provisions and supplies to the Chaudière river. Fortunately this letter was delivered to Lieut. Governor Cramahé, and was the first notice received in Quebec of an invasion via the Kennebec. This probably accelerated Mercier's exit from Quebec, if Cramahé's proclamation of 13th September had not already done it. However, nothing more was heard of Mercier until the end of the war, when he petitioned the Governor through his agent Deschenaux for the return of his property.