

"readiness in the Spring to invade Canada by water.
"We beg an answer with all speed."

Half a year previously on the 23rd. of July 1689, Colonel Nicholas Bayard, having fled from Leisler at New York "to the protection of the great care, conduct and prudence of Peter Schuyler, Mayor" of Albany, (1) writes to Captain Nicholson, afterwards the nominal commander against Canada in 1711. "I find the inhabitants of Albany *still* inclined for some exploit; and if a war with France, they would not be wanting to contribute verry much towards the subduing of that Government."

A few days later, on the 5th. of August, he explains their project exactly to Nicholson: (2)

"It is therefore most certain that these English Colonies will never be at rest or safe till those ill designs of the French be stilled, *by the subduing and invading of Canada, which easily might be accomplished with some small assistance from England, by water from New York and by land from hence, in which we may have a sufficient number of Indians for assistance,*".... we have various reports, (3) that the war is proclaimed between England and France, which if so I humbly conceive it would be the only time to make that attempt *this very next Spring*, yet leave the consideration thereof to better Councill."

(1) N. S. Doc. III, 675.

(2) Colonel N. Bayard to Capt. Nicholson, from Albany, 5 Aug. 1689. III, 611.

(3) In April 1869.