

wards forced to heave down, in order to have a false keel.

Monsieur Montcalm, the french general, having intelligence given him of the situation of the english vessels, that the brigantine was stranded, and the other two returned into harbour, took the opportunity of transporting and landing his artillery and troops in boats, within a mile and half of fort Ontario; which, as a french officer declared after Oswego was taken, he could not have done, had our vessels been out to the eastward.

Their artillery, for drawing which they transported 35 horses, consisted of about 32 pieces of cannon, from 12 to 24 pounders, several large brass mortars and hoyets (among which was the artillery taken from general Braddock at Monongahela) and were all brought in battoes from Portland Point, as they could not have been transported by land from thence, on account of the great number of swamps, drowned lands, and creeks in the way; their forces consisted of about 1800 regular troops, 2500 canadians, and 500 indians. The french troops began to fire upon Oswego on the 11th of august, which was returned with small arms, and eight cannon from the fort, and shells from the other side the river.

In short, the force of the french amounting to upwards of 3000 men, after a few days defence, the garrison was obliged to surrender; but not before their governor col. Mercer was killed by a cannon ball.

During the whole siege, the soldiers behaved with a remarkable resolution and intrepidity against the enemy, exerting themselves in the defence of the place in every part of duty; and it was with great reluctance, that they were persuaded by their officers to lay down their arms, after the garrison had capitulated.

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