

Vessel had ten 12 Pounders, with four Swivels, and 100 Men, commanded by M. la Broquerie. This Day I took Possession of Swegatchie, and encamped there; and sent two Engineers, with Parties, down the River, to view the Coasts and Situation of the Islands near L'Isle Royale.

“ On the 13th at Day-break, the advanced Guard was ready, but the Repairs of the Row galleys and Vessels took up some Time. The Engineers did not return till Ten o'Clock in the Morning; it was excessive bad Weather; but I was determined to seize the first Moment to invest the Place; and as the Report of the Engineers made no Alteration in the Disposition I had made, I pursued it in the following Manner; I took with me Gage's Regiment, three Row galleys, the Light Infantry, Grenadiers, first Brigade of Regulars, Schuyler's Regiment of Provincials, and the greatest Part of the Indians with Sir William Johnson, and some Light Field-pieces; and rowed down by the North Shore, passed the Fort, and took Possession of the Islands and Coasts below it; whilst two Companies of Rangers, two Row-galleys, the second Brigade of Regulars, Lyman's Regiment of Provincials, with the Remainder of the Indians, under the Command of Colonel Haldimand, were to row down the South Shore, to take Post opposite to the Fort, where they were under Cover: The other Provincial Regiments, and the heavy Artillery, remained at Swegatchie. The Vessel sailed down the Middle of the River, between the two Columns, to anchor at Random Shot from the Fort. This was effected with a smart Cannonading from the Fort on the Troops, rowing along the North Shore, and against the Vessel, which sunk one Row-galley, killed two Men in another Row galley; one Man had his Thigh shot off, and Seven were wounded: Several Boats and Oars struck with their Shot. At Eleven at Night, the last Boat came in, and the Place was completely invested. Isle Gallot and L'Abbe Picquets Island were found abandoned; the Enemy having left them in a great Hurry, as we found the Scalps they had taken on the Mohawk River, with Tools and Utensils of various Kinds; two Swivels, Barrels of Pitch, and a Quantity of Iron. Our Indians, on finding the Scalps, burnt the Chapel, and all the Houses. In the Night I tried to get up the Row-galley that was sunk, but could not effect it.

“ On the 19th at Day-break, I viewed the Islands, with Colonel Williamson and Lieutenant Colonel Eyre, and fixed the Batteries, one on each of the two Islands near-

est the Fort; and one on a Point of Land on the South Shore. Detachments were immediately to open Ground. The Fort fired at the Vessel, which was returned; but I directed Lieutenant St. Clair, to whom I had given the Command of the Vessel, to avoid firing rather than keep it up. In the Afternoon, our two Vessels appeared; I sent Orders to them, to anchor at Random Shot from the Fort, and to avoid firing. At Night, I got the Row-galley up, and saved the Gun, that was wounded, but not rendered unserviceable; prepared Fascines, and every Thing for carrying on the Siege; and ordered the heavy Artillery to come down, this Night from Swegatchie.

“ 20th. I ordered the Provincial Regiments from Swegatchie, leaving one Regiment of the Connecticut Troops posted at that Place.

“ 23d. Began to fire from all the Batteries. The Enemy drew in their Guns, and tried to put them under Cover. After some Time firing, I made a Disposition for storming the Fort, with the Grenadiers of the Army, and ordered the Vessels to fall down close on the Fort, having put as many Marks-men on Board each Ship, as the Commanding Officers chose to have, in order to keep the Enemy from their Batteries. The going down of the Vessels to the Fort, was not effected in the Manner I could have wished, and I determined not to pursue my Plan that Day. The Fort fired a great Deal of Ammunition without much Execution; and our Batteries, by Degrees, dismounted their Guns, and made them very shy of standing to their Batteries.

The Fire of our Batteries continued till Yesterday in the Afternoon, when the Garrison beat a Parley, and I received a Copy of, which, Sir, I send you inclosed, a Letter from M. Pouclot, Commandant, and I sent him the Terms of Capitulation signed, that he might copy it, sign it, and send it back to me; after which Lieut. Col. Maffey, with three Companies of Grenadiers, took Possession of the Fort.

“ As I imagine, Sir, it may be agreeable to you to know several Particulars of our Passage on the Lake, the Siege of the Fort, and the apparent Situation of this Country, I send Capt. Prescott, one of my Aides de Camp, with this, that he may give you a clear Information of any Thing you may chuse to know; and I inclose to you all Papers that I judge, may tend to give you, a thorough Insight into Affairs here.

“ I send you a List of the Artillery, Stores, &c. that have been taken in the Fort which I intend to have repaired, as I think it by much the best Situation I can take