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and it is in this letter that Gage gives the first hint of the discontent which was to break out ten years afterwards and to end in the formation of the United States. He says: "All the Colonies are in great wrath that they are to pay their proportion of the expenses of the state. They are all to be taxed by a vote of the British Parliament and will contribute to pay the troops and fleet on the American Service."

In 1767 Haldimand, who had been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, was transferred to the military command of East and West Florida, where he found the posts in a most unhealthy condition, the sickness and mortality among the troops being deplorable. He energetically set about remedying this condition of affairs, details of which will be found in the correspondence respecting East and West Florida, which contains, besides, an account of the quarrels between the Governors and military authorities, the encroachments on Indian lands; the surveys for opening up water communication with the Mississippi; the attempts of the population to retain large bodies of troops, not, it is represented, for purposes of defence, but for the advantages to be gained from military expenditure; the fortifications of the Province and the transactions with the Spanish. The composition of the Legislature was not, apparently, conducive to efficiency or to a proper control of the subordinate military officers and officials, the engineer and storekeeper being members of the Council and their clerks, members of the Assembly. Here, as elsewhere, he laid out large gardens round the posts, to furnish employment to the soldiers and to provide them with a change of food, in order to ward off the attacks of scurvy, which at that date was one of the deadliest enemies the troops had to encounter. In a letter to Gage he says that he is extremely disgusted with a service so disagreeable, expensive and ill-rewarded, and the correspondence fully bears out the complaint. In February, 1772, he visited the country to the west of Mobile Bay, which he reported to be barren and liable to floods, that he found only one settler on the river, and the people amongst whom he had been during his tour enthusiastic for settlement on the Mississippi. By July of that year 300 persons from Virginia and the Carolinas had settled on the Mississippi, and 300 or 400 families more were expected before the end of the summer. The people of Illinois were in a feverish condition and opposed to the establishment of a civil government.

In the spring of 1773 Gage was preparing to leave New York and sent a ship to Florida to bring Haldimand to take the command in his room, which he did in June, having then attained the rank of Major General, with the colonelcy of the second battalion of the Royal American Regiment. Shortly after he was called upon by Tryon, Governor of New York and his Council to furnish a military force to repress "several late riots in the County of Charlotte, committed by Seth Warner, Remember Baker, one Allen and other persons unknown, in which they destroyed a grist mill, the property of Colonel Reid, burnt the houses of his tenants and pulled down those of the petitioners Brookman and Saouse in the neighbourhood