

also to awe the six nations; our old friends and allies; and even to stagger their friendship; which, as might naturally be supposed, usually follows their interest; wherever it leads. This important fortress is now in our hands; the very considerable army that had been destin'd to its relief; and to raise the siege; being repulsed with great slaughter, and the garrison made prisoners of war. By which acquisition, the wavering nations of the Mohawks, as they are commonly called, are secured in their fidelity and friendship; many other tribes of the savages have become our useful allies, instead of perfidious enemies; the French forts and settlements at Presque Isle and Venango are abandoned; and, in short, the whole extent of country between Lake Ontario and Pittsburg, is left without a person who dares to own himself our enemy, unless we look far to the westward. It may be added, that by this acquisition, if maintained; even tho' Canada had remained intire in the possession of the enemy, would have been effectually cut off, all intercourse of any consequence between Canada, Detroit, and all the French forts and settlements to the southward of Lake Erie. So that the enemy on that side, could have maintained their ground only on the Mississipi, and some of its remote branches; where, by reason of the distance from us, and the difficulty of the navigation, they could neither give us much disturbance, nor gain much advantage to themselves. And this acquisition, so important in its nature, it is to be remembered, was made with the loss of a very small number of our troops; tho' not without the loss of a brave and excellent general; * not indeed, killed by the enemy; but in vulgar phrase, by an accident; yet such an accident as is directed by the providence of God. For if a sparrow does not fall to

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* Brigadier-General Prideaux.