

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

Trusty and welbeloved Guy Carleton our Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over our said Province, Keeper of our Great Seal of our said Province, Vice Admiral of the same, &c^a &c^a &c^a General and Commander in Chief of our Forces in our said Province and the Frontiers thereof, &c.^a &c.^a.

(Signed) GUY CARLETON

By his Excellency's Command,

Counter Signed/ GEO: ALLSOPP

The foregoing Commission is a true Copy of the Original upon Record in the Office of Enrolments at Quebec.

GEO. ALLSOPP

CARLETON TO GERMAIN.¹CHAMBLI 28th Sept^r 1776.

My Lord

I have received Your Lordships letter of the 21st of June² and cannot but think myself highly honoured by the notice His Majesty is pleased to take of my Services, for which I shall allways remain very thankful.

Your Lordship having expressed a "regret that I neither specified the "actual force of the Rebels, nor communicated the Intelligence I received ; "nor the conjectures I formed relative to their intentions." Also that my "Silence as to my own intended operations, and the present disposition of "the Canadians was much to be lamented because the ignorance in which "I left you concerning these matters render[e]d it impossible for you to "convey to me, for the present any further Instructions."³

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As to my opinion of the Canadians, I think there is nothing to fear from them, while we are in a state of prosperity, and nothing to hope for when in distress ; I speak of the People at large ; there are among them who are guided by Sentiments of honour, but the multitude is influenced only by hopes of gain, or fear of punishment.

I have given my opinion so amply on the affairs of Canada, how much the Canadians may be depended upon, and under what circumstances they may be usefull, in former letters which lie in your Lordships office, that I must beg leave to refer you to them ; particularly to one marked *secret*, I think it was wrote in 1769, to the Earl of Hillsborough,⁴ also to copies of

¹ Canadian Archives, Q 12, p. 188. On Jan. 25th, 1776, Lord Geo. Sackville Germain succeeded Lord Dartmouth as Colonial Secretary, or Secretary of the American Department, as it was frequently named at that period.

² Conveying the King's approval of his conduct and that of his officers and of the garrison, merchants and others in defending the town of Quebec against the attacks of the invading forces under Montgomery and Arnold. See Q 12, p. 44.

³ Here follow details of military plans and operations for maintaining the command of Lake Champlain.

⁴ This is evidently the letter of Nov. 20th, 1768, marked "Secret Correspondence," in which he points out the important position which Canada might occupy in maintaining British interests on the Continent if the Canadian noblesse, through whom the peasantry and the Indians might be secured, were restored to the influence and power which they held under the French system. See p. 325.