

Haldimand. Clinton wrote to Haldimand that he had applied to Arbuthnot for a convoy to the troop-ship to convey the exchanged convention troops to Quebec, and to take under his protection the victualling ships destined for Canada. Arbuthnot declined, as there were frigates at Quebec to perform the duty. Haldimand, in reporting the matter to Germain, very mildly put the case, that the admiral could not have been well informed. The one frigate was the "Hind." The "Canceaux," though an armed vessel, was so worn out that she could only be used as a prisoner ship; the "Jack" was the one provincial ship of any force.

A constant subject of complaint from London, in spite of Haldimand's efforts to control it, was the expense of the upper posts. It was very great, but it could scarcely be otherwise. All the provisions had, in the first instance, to be conveyed up the Saint Lawrence to Carleton-island and to Oswego and Niagara. There they had to be bodily carried across the long and severe portage to lake Erie, and thence by water to their destination. Moreover, it was not only the garrisons which had to be maintained. The Indians, likewise, had in many cases to be fed, and their friendship secured by presents; for it was by their aid only that the posts could be held, and without the occupation of the posts, no western trade could have been carried on.

In 1782, Townshend, then colonial secretary, was able to send the news of Rodney's great victory. Haldimand was likewise informed that the government of Canada would, for the future, be conducted by Carleton, the reason assigned being, that the preservation of the province was so strongly enforced upon Carleton, that he had received orders to proceed to Canada in person, and, if he should find it necessary, with such part of his force as he might judge fitting.*

Haldimand at the same time was assured that the king had the highest opinion of his merit and services, and that no other motive than that suggested "could have induced

* [Can. Arch., B. 50, p. 168. Shelburne to Haldimand, 22nd April, 1782.]