

count of the capture, and especially, as we have already seen, by that of the committee of war, having the general charge of the expedition, who, if any such agreement had been made with any one, must have known all about it. This committee was composed of intelligent and respectable men, whose veracity was never questioned; and their testimony is of too high a character to be impeached or impaired by any statements of the traitor Arnold, or of an anonymous newspaper writer.

The writer of the "Veritas" article, in addition to his statement about the joint command, says Arnold "was the first person who entered the fort, and Allen about five yards behind him." But this statement is contradicted by Allen in his letter to the Albany Committee, written the next day after the capture, by Gordon in his history, and by other accounts. Allen says, "Col. Arnold entered the fortress with me side by side." (*Ibid.* 606.) Gordon says, "they advanced along-side of each other, Colonel Allen on the right hand of Col. Arnold, and entered the port leading to the fort in the gray of the morning." (Vol. 2, p. 13.) "Veritas" also claims that Arnold is entitled to special merit for hurrying the men across the lake, and hastening the attack, without waiting for the whole force to be brought over; which claim is unsupported by any other evidence, and should be taken to be of the same character with the writer's other statements that have been above disproved.

Treating this article signed "Veritas" as an additional authority to that of Arnold, it can have but small tendency to weaken the effect of the evidence already adduced against it. But it is not entitled to the distinction of a separate and independent account. It is dated, as before stated, the 25th of June, 1775, at Ticonderoga, where Arnold then was, and it was undoubtedly prepared under his supervision and dictation, if not actually penned by him. It purports to have been written "to do justice to modest merit" — *the modest merit of Benedict Arnold!* — a man whose arro-