

such unexpected lenity might produce on the minds of the people, laboured the more to enrage them. To this end, they gave the following fallacious account of what happened at the Cedars, where their troops had been defeated.

*In Congress, July 10, 1776.*

“ The Committee, to whom the cartel between Brigadier General Arnold and Captain Forster, and the several papers thereto relating were committed, having had the same under their consideration, and made diligent inquiry into the facts, have agreed to the following reports.

“ They find, that a party of three hundred and ninety continental troops, under the command of Colonel Bedel, was posted at the Cedars, about forty-three miles above Montreal; that they had there formed some works of defence, the greatest part of them picquetted lines, the rest a breast-work, with two field-pieces mounted.

“ That on Wednesday the 15th of May, Colonel Bedel received intelligence, that a party of the enemy, consisting of about six hundred regulars, Canadians and Indians, were within nine miles of it; that Colonel Bedel thereon