

put to the rout, by a lurking enemy which it hardly saw; as even the noble and generous Lion, in passing thro' a thicket, may be stung and poison'd to death by a vile insidious serpent undiscovered, which one of his paws, or only the flapping of his tail, might have destroyed in an instant. Thus it was, that a brave English general † here received his mortal wound from a foe, contemptible every where but in his own native woods and swamps; a general, whose valor, zeal, and indefatigable industry in the service of his king and country, cannot be too much commended; and whose untimely fall can hardly be too much lamented.

I must confess, tho' to some it may perhaps seem a weakness, that these circumstances preceeding this acquisition, give an heightening to my own joy on account of it; tho' it be in itself so important in many respects, that it could not, even without these, fail to rejoice every well-wisher to his Majesty's American colonies.

BUT having stopped long enough here, considering the time allowed us for our journey; let us now hasten to the northward, as was proposed. A very material acquisition has been made this present campaign, of the fortress of Niagara. This was in itself a strong fort, and defended by a numerous garrison: Which is not to be wondered at, considering the importance of it to the enemy. For being situated between the two Lakes, Erie and Ontario, it commanded the communication between Canada and Louisiana, the Mississipi, &c. And besides, it was so situated as to draw the commerce, and with it the affections, of numerous tribes of savages about those lakes; as

† General Braddock.

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