

1780.  
June 26,  
New York.

Admiral Arbuthnot to Haldimand. "Six ships of the line and 4,000 forces are about to sail from Brest to co-operate with the rebels in this country." It is reported that the force is not to go against Canada. If it should be shall take steps to protect that Province. The promotion of Captain Schank is not in his power; application must be made to the Admiralty. Page 182

July 6,  
New York.

Clinton to the same. Letter in cypher. 184

Explanation of part follows. M. Ternay had sailed about the 3rd May with 7 ships of the line, from 20 to 25 transports, with 5,200 land forces, their destination supposed to be Canada. The French fleet, he believes, will assemble at Rhode Island, a division under La Fayette will proceed by Connecticut River and No. 4 across the lake to St. John's; the other by the River St. Lawrence. 186

July 6,  
Quebec.

Haldimand to Knyphausen. The reinforcement from New York arrived on the 25th June and a few days after the troops that had wintered at St. John's. In a few days shall send off the transports and the clothing for Burgoyne's army. Proposes to raise some companies of Canadians and loyalists, but cannot do so till the arrival of the provision fleet. The Indians are, with great success, harassing the back settlements of all the Provinces bordering on this. Sir John Johnson has just returned from the Mohawk, where he distressed the rebel inhabitants and brought off 150 loyalists without the loss of a man. Bateaux are ready to co-operate on Lake Champlain should the French fleet appear at New York, but can do little for want of provisions. (This letter was sent in cypher.) 187

July 11,  
Quebec.

Same to the same. Arrival of Colonel de Loos. The reasons for not sending the full reinforcement intended are satisfactory and the want of provisions reconciles him to it. No word yet of the provision fleet; the difficulty of subsisting or of adding to the troops should any misfortune happen to it. Sends duplicate of previous letter, the means of sending before being uncertain. Is busy preparing for the defence of the Province. Congratulates him on the surrender of Charleston. 189

July 11,  
Quebec.

Same to Clinton. The arrival of Colonel de Loos; is grateful for being afforded the assistance of so able an officer. Congratulates him on the fall of Charleston. 192

July 11,  
Quebec.

Same to Riedesel. Arrival of Schlagenteuffel; how he will arrange about paying his allowances. 194

July 11,  
Quebec.

Same to Robertson (Governor of New York). (Private.) Asks for information relating to the internal economy of the army as a guide, there being a total want of instructions from home and of established method here. The points on which information is asked are given at length. 196

July 11,  
Quebec.

Same to the same. Arrival of de Loos, with the troops under him. Is making every preparation to guard against attack, believing that it would be the interest of France to make an attempt on this Province, which would be assisted by a general revolt of the inhabitants. Believes, however, that the success at Charleston and the superiority of the British fleet, will discourage the French from venturing up the St. Lawrence. Believes, therefore, that the scheme will be abandoned. Trusts that Franklin's plan of an attack on New York will be defeated. Preparations on Lake Champlain, but nothing beyond Crown Point can be effected from want of provisions; his efforts to raise additional corps. 206