

general officers; that Mrs. Prevost as tutrix could not sacrifice the property of her children, that, besides, Prevost, being so ill rewarded for his services, his heirs had at least the right to ask for justice; in fact I spoke to him very freely. It seemed to me that my reasons made an impression on him. We will see what he will do.

Dined with Admiral Digby. His wife, who was a Miss Ellice, is not pretty but is amiable and even tempered. Colonel Drummond, formerly aide-de-camp to Sir Henry Clinton, was of the party and we had a long conversation on the events of the last war. He thought Colonel Tarleton's work very ill-written; it is only a newspaper compilation, and he blames him very much for publishing private letters and notes which Lord Cornwallis wrote him in confidence, &c.

He told me the conversation he had with the King respecting the American war, when he returned to this country. He believed that the inhabitants of the back settlements of Virginia, who were mostly Scotchmen, were the only ones attached to him. He blamed the conduct of the war, told me he was at variance with Clinton but that they always bowed to each other when they met.

Messrs. Stopford, Captain

Mr. Legg, and two other naval men

were of the party.

From there I went to the Baron's concert, which was very full. The Bishop of Oxford presented me to Mrs. , and Lady Thompson asked me how long I had been in this country. I must pay her a visit.

Young Dayrolles seemed very awkward. Home at half past ten.

3. *Tuesday*. Captain Shaw dined with me and told me that he had spoken to General Robertson about Prevost's accounts with Christie, and proposed to him to give a written detail of them. He is an eternal talker. He gave me several details of the conduct of Sir Archibald Campbell towards Prevost in the expedition to Georgia, which did Campbell little honour, but that having more friends and activity than Prevost, he passed for a great man and Prevost has been forgotten.

Campbell has made a bad beginning on his arrival in India. He employed half a score of his countrymen on his first arrival, against the resolutions of the company and the orders he had received. He is an officer of talent, but with even more pride and presumption. Spent the evening at Mrs. Morrison's with the Baron Alvensleben.

Poor General Gage died yesterday after having lingered for a long time. Sir William Green does not appear satisfied to be at the head of the engineers. He would have preferred to return to Gibraltar, where he had double the pay he has now. He finds the Duke [of Richmond] particular in trifles and difficult to satisfy.

4. *Wednesday*. Was at the levée, which was numerously attended; the King asked me where I was going in spring. I told him that I would go to Switzerland by the middle of May or June (*sic*); that I might perhaps go to Italy where I had been in '49. He told me that should I go to Naples I must take care not to bring back the plague. I told him that having escaped in my youth, I ran little risk now, &c.

Visited Mrs. and Admiral Digby, General Tryon and Mrs. and Miss Leland, Sir Charles Thompson and Mrs. Christie, where I found Colonel who spoke to me of his son-in-law, Captain Piquet, who proposed to return to Canada to settle there with his family. Went in the evening to General Carpenter's and General Robertson's, whom I did not find in.

5. *Wednesday* [*Thursday*]. Had a visit from Sir James Napier, and the Bishop of Oxford, who seems a very sociable and amiable man. Went to the court, which was not very well attended. The Queen spoke to me for a long time and with much kindness. She spoke in high terms of the two Swiss young ladies, whom she had had with the Princesses.

I found Sir George Yonge, who said it had been a long time since we had met. He informed me of the destination of the regiments of dragoons. I told him