1776.

ports in the , whilst the munication, extremely ties on their nericans the t .overcome and spirit, at had been t amounted ing of two gallies, and er mounted ommanded pport upon

d acquired

HAP. XIII.

l, and too itish arma-, discoverudgement, forming a the island ideed they s with fo cident only fquadron, have left happened, oft ferious cted fight the Lake. nost visible er, probin Canam them.

oufly fupthe wind being

being unfavourable, so that the ship Inslexible, and some other vessels of force could not be worked up to the enemy, the weight of the action fell upon the schooner Carleton and the gun-boats, which they sustained with the greatest firmness, such extraor, dinary efforts of resolution being displayed both by men and officers, as merited and received the highest applause from their commanders. It is to be prefumed, that when so much praise was due and given to the conduct and valour of a superior force on our fide, the enemy must not have acted their part amiss.

The detachment belonging to the corps of artillery, were highly diftinguished, and did most essential service in the gun-boats. But the same impediments still continuing, which prevented their being seconded by the other vessels, Captain Pringle, with the approbation of the General, thought it necessary for the present, to withdraw those that were engaged from the action. At the approach of night, he brought the whole fleet to anchor in a line, and as near as possible to the enemy, in order to prevent their retreat.

In this engagement the best schooner belonging to the enemy was burnt, and a gondola carrying three or four guns funk, from whence we may form some reasonable conjecture of the execution done upon their other vessels. Being now fully Arnold fensible of their inferiority, they took the opportu- retires; nity which the darkness of the night afforded, of pursuit; endeavouring to escape from their present imminent danger, hoping to obtain shelter and protection at Crown Point. Arnold concerted and executed this defign with ability, and fortune seemed at first so favourable to his purpose, that they were out of fight by the next morning. The chace being, however, continued without intermission, both on that, and the succeeding day, the wind, and other