

CHAPTER XXVI.

ON the day when General Montgomery achieved his victory at St. John's, Colonel Benedict Arnold, who, with a few troops, had passed the great wilderness of the Kennebec and Chaudière, and achieved a more wonderful triumph, were gathering at the first of settlements that stretched from the forests to the St. Lawrence, preparatory to a march to the high banks of that river, opposite Quebec.

That expedition, which formed a part of the campaign against Canada, of which Schuyler held the chief command, considered in all its features and circumstances, was one of the most wonderful on record.

We have already observed Arnold leaving Crown Point in a towering passion, to lay complaints of ill-usage before Washington at Cambridge. The commander-in-chief, as usual, considered the whole matter dispassionately. He appreciated the services of Arnold, and received him in a most friendly manner at head-quarters. His story, straightforward and well corroborated, soon changed the tide of popular feeling that had been rising strongly against him. His exploits on Lake Champlain, so chivalric and useful, created the greatest enthusiasm, and he soon found himself borne upon a flood of popular sympathy, in which Washington himself was a participant. Adventurous, a good tactician and disciplinarian, and possessed of the faculty of inspiring

his troops with his own enthusiasm, Arnold appeared to Washington as precisely the right man to lead a coöperating expedition to Quebec by way of the wilderness, which he had contemplated, and concerning which, as we have seen, he consulted General Schuyler. When his plans were matured, Washington, with his usual wise discrimination, gave the command of the expedition to Arnold, and commissioned him as colonel in the Continental army. Arnold, in past years, had carried on a trade in horses between Quebec and the West Indies, and had often visited the Canadian capital in the pursuit of his vocation. He was familiar with the town and understood the people, and Washington expected to see him successful.

Arnold's ambition was now fully gratified, and he entered upon the duties of his office, in organizing the expedition, with the greatest zeal. Very soon eleven hundred men were enrolled for the perilous service, consisting of ten companies of New England infantry (part of them from General Greene's Rhode Island brigade), two rifle companies from Pennsylvania, and one from Virginia, and a number of volunteers. These formed a battalion. Roger Enos of Connecticut (whose courage was not sufficient to carry him through the wilderness), and the brave Christopher Green of Rhode Island, were Arnold's lieutenants. The majors were Meigs of Connecticut, and Bigelow of Worcester, Mass. Morgan, afterward the famous leader in the southern campaigns, with Heth, who behaved bravely at Germantown two years later, and Humphreys, led the Virginia riflemen. Hendricks commanded a Pennsylvania company. Thayer, who behaved so gallantly at Fort Mifflin, in the autumn of 1777, led a company of Rhode Islanders, and Dearborn another of the Massachusetts infantry. Among the volunteers was Aaron Burr, a way-

ward grandson of the renowned theologian, Jonathan Edwards, then a youth of nineteen, who arose from a sick bed on hearing of the expedition, joined it, and behaved nobly to the end. Samuel Spring of Massachusetts was the chaplain.

Arnold was invested with ample, and even extraordinary powers, yet these were subservient to very explicit instructions, prepared by Washington with great care. In these, Arnold was charged to push forward with all possible expedition, and to endeavor to discover the real sentiments of the Canadians toward the republican cause, particularly as to the undertaking in which he was engaged. He was instructed not to prosecute the enterprise, if the Canadians should be decidedly opposed to it. He was furnished with a quantity of friendly addresses in the French language, which he was to distribute among the Canadians when he should emerge from the wilderness on the St. Lawrence slope. He was also instructed to enforce rigid discipline and good order, that his troops might not commit the least outrage upon the inhabitants, either in person or property ; to “check every idea, and crush, in its earliest stage, every attempt to plunder even those who were known to be enemies to the cause.” He was directed to pay full value for every thing the Canadians should provide for him on his march ; by no means to press the people or their cattle into his service ; and not only to pay perfect respect to the religious feelings and observances of the country, but to do every thing in his power to protect and support the free exercise of those observances on the part of the inhabitants.

Acting upon the hint given him by the commanding-general of the Northern department, Washington added : “In case of a union with General Schuyler, or if he should

be in Canada upon your arrival there, you are by no means to consider yourself as upon a separate and independent command, but are to put yourself under him, and follow his instructions. Upon this occasion, and all others, I recommend most earnestly to avoid all contention about rank. In such a case, every post is honorable in which a man can serve his country."

Lord Pitt, a younger son of the Earl of Chatham, and aid-de-camp to Sir Guy Carleton, it was supposed was still in Canada, and Washington instructed Arnold, that in the event of that young gentleman falling into his hands, he should treat him with the greatest consideration. "You can not err," he said, "in paying too much honor to the son of so illustrious a character, and so true a friend to the Americans."

In his address to the Canadians, Washington, after exhorting them to espouse the cause of the colonists, said: "The cause of America, and of liberty, is the cause of every virtuous American citizen; whatever may be his religion or descent, the united colonies know no distinction but such as slavery, corruption, and arbitrary dominion may create. Come, then, ye generous citizens, range yourselves under the standard of general liberty, against which all the forces and artifices of tyranny will never be able to prevail."

With ample appointments for the expedition, the troops sailed from Medford to Newburyport on the evening of the 13th of September, and on the morning of the 20th, after a night of tempest—wind, lightning, and rain—they reached Gardiner, on the Kennebec, in safety, and in two hundred batteaux, already prepared for them, ascended the river to Fort Western, at the present city of Augusta, then on the verge of the great wilderness. That

was the designated place of general rendezvous. Beyond it, toward Norridgewock Falls, only a log house appeared here and there, and above that cascade no white man's dwelling was known. An exploring party was immediately dispatched toward the Dead River, a considerable tributary of the Kennebec, and another toward Lake Megantic or Chaudière Pond, the head waters of the Chaudière, each pursuing the paths of the moose-hunters, and directed by the maps of Colonel Montessor, who, fifteen years before, had come from Quebec, ascended the Chaudière, crossed the Highlands near the head waters of the Penobscot, passed through Moosehead Lake, and entered the east branch of the Kennebec.

The whole detachment followed in four divisions, one day apart. Morgan and his riflemen formed the van; Green and Bigelow, with their musketeers, followed next; then Meigs, with four other companies. The rear was composed of three companies, under Enos. Arnold left Fort Western last, and at Norridgewock Falls overtook Morgan and his riflemen.

At the Falls the greater fatigues of the journey commenced. Before them lay an uninhabited and almost trackless wilderness, yet they were not wholly unprovided with guides, for Arnold procured an imperfect copy of Montessor's journal, and also a journal and plans of Samuel Goodwin, of Pownalborough, in Maine, who had been in that country as a surveyor for twenty-five years.

Along the swift Kennebec the expedition moved, carrying provisions, baggage, boats—every thing—around the rapids, up steep, rocky banks, through tangled woods, and across deep morasses, sometimes rowing, sometimes poleing, sometimes wading and dragging their batteau. On

the tenth of October they reached the dividing ridge between the Kennebec and Dead Rivers.

Already the weak and timid had faltered, and sickness and desertion had reduced the battalion to about nine hundred and fifty effective men. These were in fine spirits and full of enthusiasm. The lovely Indian summer had commenced, and the forests were arrayed in their robes of autumnal splendor. The future appeared encouraging, and on the 12th of October two subalterns were sent forward with a party to explore and clear the portages. On the following day, Arnold dispatched a Canadian, named Jakins, to Sertigan, the nearest French settlement, to ascertain the political sentiments of the people. He also sent forward with Jakins two Indians, Sabatis and Eneas, each with a letter, one to General Schuyler and the other to friends in Quebec, announcing to the former his plan of coöperation, and asking information of the latter concerning the number of troops in the Canadian capital, what ships were there, and what were the dispositions of the merchants. One of the Indians (Eneas) proved faithless. He delivered Arnold's letter into the hands of the lieutenant-governor of the province,* and Schuyler never received the communication directed to him.

The main body of the army were now on the Dead River, a deep and sluggish stream, as its name imports. They followed it eighty miles, making seventeen portages

* These letters brought the friends to whom they were addressed into trouble. One of them, John Dyer Mercier, a merchant, was arrested and imprisoned on suspicions of treason. A gentleman in Quebec, writing to a friend on the 9th of November, said, in relation to Mr. Mercier: "On Saturday, the 28th of October, while he was going into the Upper Town, he was laid hold of by the Town Sergeant, and conducted to the main-guard, and there confined, and his papers were seized and examined merely by the order of the lieutenant-governor, without any crime or accusation alleged against him, and at day-break the next morning he was put on board the *Hunter*

at falls, until they reached the timber-clogged ponds at its sources. Up to this time the salmon-trout had been caught in such abundance that there had been no lack of food ; but now a scarcity began. They made their way through these ponds with the greatest difficulty, toward the great carrying place to the Chaudière, which they reached on the 26th. There, in the neighborhood of Lake Megantic, is the summit of the water-shed between Canada and New England.

The fatigue and privation suffered during this portion of the journey, which occupied ten or twelve days, were terrible. The records of them have no parallel in history. "The company," says a private soldier in his journal, "were ten miles wading knee deep, among alders the greatest part of the way, and came to a river which had overflowed the land. We stopped some time, not knowing what to do, and at last were obliged to wade through it, the ground giving way under us at every step. We got on a little knoll of land and went ten miles, where we were obliged to stay, night coming on ; and we were all cold and wet. One man fainted in the water with cold and fatigue, but was helped along. We had to wade into the water and chop down trees, and fetch the wood out of the water, after dark, to make a fire to dry ourselves. However, at last we got a fire, and after eating a mouthful of fish, laid ourselves down to sleep around the fire, the water surround-

sloop-of-war. This was very alarming to the citizens of Quebec, who thereupon had a meeting, and appointed three of their number to wait on the lieutenant-governor to know the cause of so remarkable a step. He made answer that he had sufficient reasons for what he had done, which he would communicate when and to whom he should think proper. But he soon thought better of it ; for the next morning he called together the six captains of the British militia, and communicated to them one or more intercepted letters, directed to Mr. Mercier, of a nature that was sufficient to warrant his being secured for the safety of the town."—*American Archives, Fourth Series*, iii., 1419.

ing us close to our heads. If it had rained hard it would have overflowed the place we were on.”*

While on this dreadful journey, intelligence came to Arnold that Lieutenant-Colonel Enos had deserted the expedition, and with three companies had returned to Cambridge. By rare good fortune Enos escaped punishment, the friendly court-martial that tried him having found an excuse for his return because his provisions had given out. But the remainder of the battalion, notwithstanding this material diminution of their strength, pressed forward in the midst of privations, of which Enos and his troops had no conceptions. The winter was coming rapidly on. The mountains were covered with snow, and yet their course, for many a weary league, lay northward. Over those bleak Highlands they wandered, exposed days and nights to drenching rains, sometimes mixed with snow, their clothes torn and their flesh lacerated by shrubs and thorns; some walking whole hours barefooted, and sleeping with no other covering but the wet branches of the evergreens. Worse than all, their provisions failed, and dogs' meat became a luxury. Some of the poor sufferers carefully washed their moose-skin moccasins and boiled them, with

* SENTER'S JOURNAL.—Judge Joseph Henry, of Pennsylvania, was in this expedition, and wrote a narrative of it. He speaks of two women who had followed their husbands, and who exhibited the most remarkable fortitude and endurance in this portion of the march. “One was the wife of Sergeant Grier,” says Henry, “a large, virtuous, and respectable woman.” The other was the wife of a common soldier, named Warner. “Entering the ponds,” says Henry, “and breaking the ice here and there with the butts of our guns and feet, we were soon waist-deep in mud and water. As is generally the case with youths, it came to my mind that a better path might be found than that of the more elderly guide. Attempting this, the water in a trice cooling my arm-pits, made me gladly return in the file. Now Mrs. Grier had got before me. My mind was humbled, yet astonished, at the exertions of this good woman. Her clothes were then waist high. She waded on before me, to firm ground. Not one, so long as she was known to us, dared to intimate a disrespectful idea of her.”

the hope of procuring a little mucilage to appease the demands of consuming hunger. To such straits were some of Arnold's party reduced, after having hauled up their boats, with baggage and provisions, one hundred and eighty miles, and carried them on their shoulders nearly forty miles.

On the borders of Lake Megantic, the chief source of the Chaudière, Arnold and a large portion of the expedition found Jakins, who brought back intelligence of the friendly disposition of the inhabitants in the Chaudière Valley. Inspired by this information, he prepared to descend the river immediately. It was a fearful voyage. The water rushed toward the St. Lawrence with rapid current, sometimes foaming over rough rocky bottoms, and sometimes leaping, in cascades, beautiful to the eye but perilous to the voyager. Boats were overturned, and ammunition and precious stores were lost. Perils quite as formidable as those they had passed were again gathering around them, when the lowing of cattle fell upon their ears as sweetly as the most ravishing music, for it assured them of life. Two Canadians, on horses, had come up from the settlement with five oxen. These were timely relief; and the republicans, in their joy, fired a salute. In the course of a few days every fragment of the broken battalion that survived the horrors of the wilderness, emerged from the forests, and gazed with delight upon the roofs of the dwellings and the spire of the parish church at Sertigan, a settlement twenty-five leagues from Quebec. There the troops rendezvoused and rested; and from there Arnold sent young Burr with a verbal message to Montgomery, who, on the 29th of October, had written to him from St. John's. All the letters that Arnold had sent to Schuyler, while on his march, had miscarried—been intercepted or

betrayed into the hands of the enemy. But young Burr, disguised as a priest, and speaking both French and Latin pretty well, passed through the country unsuspected, and conveyed all necessary information to Montgomery. Before the youthful ambassador's arrival the general was a victor at Montreal.

Montgomery had already been apprised, through intercepted letters, of Arnold's approach, and was very anxiously waiting for a dispatch from his own hand. It came on the 17th, a few days after Burr's arrival, accompanied by a letter for General Washington. Montgomery was charmed by the manners, intelligence, and enthusiasm of young Burr, and invited him to remain at head-quarters. He did so, and was with the general at Quebec, as his aide-de-camp.

Arnold was joined at Sertigan by about forty Norridge-wock Indians, and, in the face of a severe snow storm, set out for Point Levi, opposite Quebec. The fertile valley of the Chaudière was filled with friendly inhabitants, and abundant provisions might be obtained. The troops were in excellent spirits, for they believed they would speedily share in the glory of taking possession of Quebec. They were perfectly orderly, and Arnold was enabled to carry out the most strict provisions of Washington's instructions, in regulating the conduct of his troops toward the Canadians. His approach to Quebec was known two or three days before his appearance; and when, on the 9th, he reached Point Levi, the snow yet falling, and several inches deep, every boat had been removed from that side of the river or destroyed. Here was the termination of the toils of travel. They had journeyed over three hundred miles, most of the way through a gloomy wilderness. For thirty-two days they did not meet a human being; and

their preservation in the midst of fearful and multifarious dangers seemed like a miracle.

Until within two days nobody at Quebec believed that the little band whom they had heard of as struggling with the storms in the wilderness, would ever reach the St. Lawrence. Cramahé, the lieutenant-governor, laughed at the idea of such an invasion; and, when early in the morning of the 9th, the little army stood behind the veil of falling snow, upon the heights above Point Levi, they appeared like specters to the startled inhabitants of the capital. The drums immediately beat to arms, for some who had crossed the river to Point Levi with the intelligence, taking counsel of their fears, greatly magnified the number of the republicans. And by a mistake in a single word the alarm of the people was greatly increased, for the news spread that the mysterious army which had descended from the wilderness or had fallen from a cloud, were clad in sheet-iron! Morgan's riflemen, with their linen frocks, had been first seen. "They are *vêtu en toile*" (clothed in linen cloth), exclaimed the Canadian messengers of alarm. The last word was mistaken for *tôle* (iron plate), and thus occurred the mistake that created a fearful panic in Quebec.

While waiting for the rear of his troops to come up, Arnold employed Canadian carpenters in making ladders, and his men in collecting canoes, and on the 14th he wrote to Montgomery, saying:

"The wind has been so high these three nights that I have not been able to cross the river. I have nearly forty canoes ready, and, as the wind has moderated, I design crossing this evening. The *Hunter* (sloop) and *Lizard* (frigate), lie opposite to prevent us, but make no doubt I shall be able to avoid them. I this moment received the agreeable intelligence, *via* Sorel, that you are in possession of St. John's, and have invested Montreal. I can give no intelligence, save that the

merchant ships are busy, day and night, in loading, and four have already sailed."*

Here we will leave Arnold, while considering the position of Montgomery and his army, whom we left victors at St. John's.

Inclement weather and insubordination among the troops retarded Montgomery's march upon Montreal, and he did not arrive before it until the 12th of November. Major Henry B. Livingston had been sent forward toward Caughnawaga, with one hundred men of Colonel James Clinton's regiment, to protect the friendly Indians, but found them under no apprehensions.

"I sent for them," he says, "as soon as I came in town [Laprairie], to know whether they wanted us at their castle or not. The chiefs told me that General Montgomery had been imposed upon by some of their meaner people, who had been frightened at nothing—that they feared no invasion from Mr. Carleton at all, and if he did attack them, they thought themselves able, without assistance from abroad, to defeat him."†

It was with much difficulty that Montgomery persuaded many of the troops to advance with him. "I was obliged, at St. John's," he wrote to Schuyler, "to promise all such their dismissal as choose it, to coax them to Montreal. Indeed, Wooster's regiment showed the greatest uneasiness."‡ Most of his troops finally agreed to accompany him, and he moved toward Laprairie on the 6th.§ The inhabitants of Montreal, informed of this, be-

* Livingston's MS. Journal.

† Autograph Letter, Nov. 14, 1775. ‡ Autograph Letter, Nov. 13, 1775.

§ Major Livingston made the following entry in his Diary, at Laprairie:

"Nov. 6.—General Montgomery arrived in town at two o'clock, and at different times of the day, the first of our battalion.

"7.—General Wooster and Colonel Waterbury, with their regiments and part of the fourth battalion, came in town this afternoon, and encamped in the fields about a quarter of a mile from town.

came greatly alarmed, and on the 7th the merchants of that city held a council, and then waited upon Governor Carleton to ascertain his views concerning a defense of the town. Deeply chagrined because of the evident disloyalty of the French inhabitants, Carleton told them that he should quit the place in a day or two, and that they might take care of themselves. They instantly determined to apply to General Montgomery for protection, and for that purpose a deputation was appointed to meet him at Laprairie. This was prevented by Carleton, who had resolved to force the inhabitants into resistance. But when the governor saw Montgomery approaching in force, he fled in alarm, with the garrison, on board a flotilla of ten or eleven small vessels lying in the river, with the intention of escaping to Quebec. He took with him the powder and other important stores. Perceiving this movement, Montgomery dispatched Colonel Easton, with Continental troops, cannon, and armed gondolas, to the mouth of the Sorel, to intercept the flotilla in its passage down the river. At the same time he crossed the St. Lawrence, sat down before the town, and sent in the following letter, addressed to those citizens who had been appointed by the merchants to negotiate with him :

“ 9.—Captain Lamb and his company came in with six field pieces (brass), taken from the enemy at St. John’s.

“ 10.—Thirteen batteaux were conveyed from Chamblée, almost all the way by land, to a stream of water two miles east of Laprairie, and from thence brought to the landing by the town.

“ 11.—At nine this morning, the General, Colonel Waterbury’s regiment, some of the first battalion, and a few of the fourth battalion, and General Wooster’s regiment, in all about five hundred men, with six field pieces, crossed the river St. Lawrence, and landed on Isle St. Paul, directly opposite Laprairie, and one and a half miles from Montreal. As soon as Governor Carleton saw our people embark, he ordered all his regulars on board the vessels he had lying at Montreal, and fled down the river.”—*Livingston’s MS. Journal.*

Gentlemen:—My anxiety for the fate of Montreal induces me to request that you will exert yourselves among the inhabitants to prevail on them to enter into such measures as will prevent the necessity of opening my batteries on the town. When I consider the dreadful consequences of a bombardment, the distress that must attend a fire (at this season especially), when it is too late to repair the damage which must ensue, how many innocent people must suffer, and that the firm friends of liberty must be involved in one common ruin with the wicked tools of despotism, my heart bleeds at the dire necessity which compels me to distress that unfortunate city. I conjure you, by all the ties of humanity, to take every possible step to soften the heart of the governor; for he, if he be sincere in his professions to the people committed to his charge, must commiserate their condition. In vain will he persist in a resistance, which can only be attended with misery to the inhabitants, and with lasting disgrace to his own humanity.”

To this he added, in a postscript :

“I have just heard that it has been falsely and scandalously reported that our intentions are to plunder the inhabitants. I have only to appeal to your own observation, whether such a proceeding be consistent with our conduct since we have entered this province.”

The governor and the garrison had fled, and Montgomery encountered no resistance. He marched into the city cheered by many greetings, and won the esteem and affection of the inhabitants by his kindness, toleration, and humanity. He found there a great quantity of woolen goods with which he prepared his troops for the rigors of a Canadian winter, and at the same time shocked the Puritan prejudices of the New England soldiers by his courtesy to the functionaries of the Roman Catholic Church—a proceeding which the highest policy as well as the best feelings of human nature sanctioned.

“I have had,” Montgomery wrote to Schuyler, “some conversation with Père Flaquet, a Jesuit, at the head of the society here, and esteemed a very sensible fellow. He complained of some little indignities shown their order, particularly in making part of their house the common prison, by his majesty’s governors. I promised redress, and hinted, at the same time, the great probability of that society enjoying their

estates (notwithstanding Sir Jeffrey Amherst's pretensions) should this province accede to the general union. I hope this hint may be of service, the priests hitherto having done us all the mischief in their power in many parishes. They will not give the people absolution. However, I have shown all the respect in my power to religion, and have winked at the behavior in the priests for fear of giving malice a handle."*

Montgomery also assured the inhabitants that the Continental Congress would be mindful of their political rights, and that as soon as he had effected the complete conquest of the province, by taking Quebec, he should return and call a convention of the people.

Contrary winds had detained Carleton's flotilla, and gave Easton an opportunity to well prepare for opposing him. He posted his troops so advantageously, with six cannon in battery, and two armed row-galleys in the river, that the enemy were easily kept at bay.

Montgomery meanwhile prepared to attack them with field artillery, mounted in batteaux, but before he could effect that object Easton captured the little fleet. General Prescott, the commander of Montreal, and several officers, some members of the Canadian council, and one hundred and twenty private soldiers, with all the vessels and stores, were surrendered by capitulation. But Carleton, disguised as a Canadian *voyageur*, and under cover of darkness, had escaped the previous night, in a boat rowed by himself and others, with muffled oars, and soon reached Quebec in safety, to the great joy of the loyal inhabitants there, who had been trembling in the presence of Arnold.

The spoils of this little victory were, quite a large quantity of provisions, three barrels of powder, four cannon, artillery ammunition, a quantity of small arms, balls, musket-cartridges, two hundred pairs of shoes, and some

* Autograph letter, Nov. 19, 1775.

intrenching tools. Among the vessels captured was the *Gaspé*, Colonel Allen's prison ship, which was placed under the command of Captain Cheeseman, of McDougall's regiment, who fell at Quebec a few weeks later.

Montgomery now placed a garrison at St. John's, under Captain Marinus Willett; another in the fort at Chamblée; gave Wooster the command at Montreal, and prepared to push forward to Quebec; for he said, without that city, "Canada remains unconquered." "By intercepted letters," he wrote to Schuyler, "I am informed that the king's troops are exceedingly alarmed by the presence of Arnold, and expect to be besieged, which, by the blessing of God, they shall be, if the severe season holds off, and I can prevail on the troops to accompany me."*

"The inhabitants," he wrote a little later, "are our friends on both sides of the river, to Quebec. Our expresses go without interruption, backward and forward. A young man who has got out of Quebec, informs me that the lieutenant-governor, the chief justice, and several others, have put their baggage on board ship, and that no ship is permitted to sail. This looks as if they despaired of making a defense."†

Having formed his plans, Montgomery issued the following proclamation, on the 15th of November, signed by his aid-de-camp, James Van Rensselaer:

"The general embraces this happy occasion of making his acknowledgment to the troops for their patience and perseverance during the course of a fatiguing campaign. They merit the applause of their grateful countrymen. He is now ready to fulfill the engagements of the public. Passes, together with boats and provisions, shall be furnished upon application from the commanding officers of regiments, for such as choose to return home; yet he entreats the troops not to lay him under the necessity of abandoning Canada; of undoing in one day what has been the work of months; of restoring to an enraged, and hitherto disappointed enemy, the means of carrying on a cruel war into the very

* Autograph letter, Nov. 13, 1775.

† Autograph letter, Nov. 19, 1775.

bowels of their country. Impressed with a just sense of the spirit of the troops; their attachment to the interests of the united colonies, and of their regard to their own honor, he flatters himself that none will leave him at this critical juncture, but such whose affairs or health absolutely require their return home.

“He has still hope, notwithstanding the advanced season of the year, should he be seconded by the generous valor of the troops, hitherto highly favored by Providence, to reduce Quebec, in conjunction with the troops which have penetrated by the Kennebec River, and hereby deprive the ministerial army of all their footing in this important province.

“Those who engage in this honorable cause shall be furnished completely with every article of clothing requisite for the rigor of the climate—blanket-coats, coats, waistcoat, and breeches, one pair of stockings, two shirts, leggings, sacks, shoes, mittens, and a cap, at the Continental charge, and one dollar bounty. The troops are only requested to engage to the 15th of April. They shall be discharged sooner if the expected reënforcement arrives before that time.”