

Guard of 24 Soldiers with him, eight of which marched behind him, and eight on each Side. The Weather was extremely hot, hotter than it has been this Year; yet he being on Horse-back, the Guard were obliged to march very fast to keep up with them. When they came to the Falls, one of the Guard, a Highlander, was taken Light-headed, and imagining he saw an Indian, was going to fire his Gun; but before he could draw his Trigger, he fell down dead. Two more, belonging to Orway's Regiment, fell down after the same Manner, and expired immediately. Thirteen others fainting away, but were brought to by being bled. Some of them are still in a bad Condition.

"There is a Man killed at Fort William Henry: Two of the Soldiers were cut a Fishing in a small Creek, near the Fort; one of them called out that he heard Indians, and ran for it: The other stood, and was soon and scalped by the Indians.

"An Out-Post, of 500 Men, went from Fort Edward the latter End of last Week, to reconnoitre the South-Bay.

"Sir WILLIAM JOHNSON arrived the 7th Instant at his Seat at Fort Johnson; and was informed that he has brought above 200 of the French Indians into the British Interests."

Extract of a Letter from Boston, dated the 12th Instant, Ten a Clock, A. M.

"Just now the Courier arrived here from Albany, and brings on Account, that about 1200 French came this Side the Lake the 7th Instant.

Extract of a Letter from Oswego, dated July 4.

I went out a Cruize on the Lake the 23d ultimo. The Sunday following, we saw at Day-break two Sail, which we immediately chased, and behold, as the Day advanced, and we came nearer, we found four large Schooners, the smallest of which was bigger than our largest. The two nearest were within Gun Shot; one of them mounted 14 Guns, most of which by Appearance were Six-pounders; the other mounted eight Ditto. A Council of War was immediately held, and as our two Vessels had but ten Guns between them (five each) and the little Schooner (or Row-boat) only a few Swivels, we thought it our best Way to retreat, and save ourselves. The four Sail chased us for near four Hours; happily we escaped, more by the Goodness of Scamen than Ships. Poor Captain Farmer, in the Row-boat, with the Crew, and eight Soldiers, are taken. Mr. Tunn, in another Row-boat, happening to be out, was chased, and narrowly escaped. We have had 14 Men deserted from Pepperell's Regiment at different Times within this Week. Three Vessels are now on the Stocks, two of which, a Brig and a Sloop, will be launched To-day, and the Snow soon. We have just 26 Guns for five Vessels."

The Declaration of a Person belonging to the Marine Companies, taken Prisoner the Third of July, 1756, by Captain Bradstreet, commanding near the Oswego Falls.

**D**ECLARES, That in August, 1750, he embarked at Bourdeaux with about 1500 of the Marine, and landed at Quebec. That from that Time he has been in several of their Garrisons, and lastly in Montreal; from which Place he embarked the 17th of May last, with about 900 Canadians, and 110 of the Marine, under the Command of Capt. Vlelieu; that they stopt three Days at La Gallette, and proceeded afterwards to La Bennoovera, on the East-side Lake Ontario, 9 Leagues beyond Catarqui, and 15 Leagues from Oswego.

That they landed the 29th of May, and three Days after were joined by 200 Indians, and marched the next Day with an Intention to cut off the Convoy with Provisions from Albany; but the Indians refusing to go with them to the Oswego Falls, they agreed to go to Fort Ontario, opposite to Oswego, where they attacked and demolished a Sergeant's Guard, and took a Corporal Prisoner; and after firing at the Fort and Town, they retired to the River La Planche, and next Day to their Camp, 15 Leagues from Oswego, where all their Indians except 15 left them. There they rested eight Days; and being joined by 100 Indians of different Nations, they marched a Body consisting of 300 Canadians, 90 of the Marine, and 100 Indians, who on the Third attacked Capt. Bradstreet's Command, on his Return, near the Oswego Falls, where he was taken Prisoner, and can give no satisfactory Account of that Skirmish.

The Prisoner says, that the French have five Vessels on the Lake, besides one of 20 Guns, which was launched a few Weeks ago; that their small Craft are Boats that can row with 14 Oars, and carry upwards of 20 Men, with a considerable Quantity of Provisions.

That the Regiment of La Sarre, and the Regiment Royal Roussillon, computed at about 600 each, together with about 1500 Marines, arrived about six Weeks ago at Quebec; that the first of these Battalions was sent to Crown-Point, the other to Catarqui, and the Marines into different Garrisons.

That Frontenac is strongly fortified with Stone-Walls. That La Gallette is only 4 Blockhouses, with a weak Garrison. That when he past Niagra

in August last, escorting Provisions to Fort Du Quesne, Niagra was then in a weak and ruinous Condition, but that since it is much enlarged, and fortified by Forts on each Side, with a numerous Garrison.

That Fort Du Quesne is a small but well built Fort, with Wood and Earth, a large Ditch round it, and well pallisadoed."

The Honourable Charles Holmes, Esq; Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships in North-America, has by Letter to Governor Phips, of Boston, desired, that he would procure two of the most experienced Pilots for the Gulph of St. Lawrence and the Coast of Louisbourg, and send them as soon as possible to Halifax, for his Majesty's Ships the Grafton and Nottingham.

July 26. Friday Morning last, between the Hours of Three and Four, came to Town in one of our Pilot-Boats, from on board the Nightingale Man of War, Capt. Campbell, then lying at Sandy-Hook, his Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of LOUDON, General and Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North-America, Colonel of the Royal American Regiment, and Governor of Virginia. Also John Appy, Esq; Secretary, and Capt. James Cunningham, and Capt. Gilbert M<sup>r</sup> Adam, Aid-de-Camps.

His Lordship thus taking the Advantage of the City in coming up so privately, prevented the Inhabitants giving that public Testimony of Joy and Respect on his Arrival as was intended, by their appearing under Arms: And when at Sun-rise it was noticed to him their Intention still to mutter, he recommended it as needless. However, when he was conducted to his House at Whitehall, the Guns on the Battery fired, being about Six o'Clock in the Morning; and about Eleven, his Lordship was waited on by such of the Members of his Majesty's Council, and those of the General Assembly, as were then in Town, and in the Name of those two Boards, congratulated on his safe Arrival in America. They also gave his Lordship Thanks for his engaging in a Service of such Importance to the Honour of his Majesty, and the Interest, Peace, and Safety of all his American Subjects. As did likewise the Mayor and Corporation, the Clergy, and all the Gentlemen in Town:—And at Night the City was handsomely illuminated.

In Company with the Earl of Loudon, arrived his Excellency THOMAS POWNALL, Esq; who is to succeed General SHIRLEY, as Commander in Chief of the Government of the Massachusetts-Bay; and is to attend his Lordship as his Agent for his Majesty's Affairs.

We are told that his Lordship, the Hon. Thomas Pownall, Esq; James Barons, and Oliver De Lancey, Esquires, are to embark To-morrow or Wednesday for Albany.

His Excellency our Governor being at Albany when the Earl of Loudon landed, Expresses were immediately dispatched to him with the Declaration of War brought by his Lordship; and it is thought it will be declared in that City this Day: After which it is probable his Excellency's Orders for it's Declaration in this City will be received here before Saturday next.

Expresses were also sent both to the Eastern and Western Governments, with each of their Dispatches from home.

We hear, that before his Excellency Governor Hardy embarked for Albany, he left a Number of blank Commissions behind him, signed, for the Use of the Privateers.

On Friday last a French Prize Ship, called the Centaur, Mons. Bellangier, Commander, was sent in here by the Nightingale Man of War. She took her the 17th Instant, and was bound from Martineco to Bourdeaux, laden with Sugar, Cotton and Coffee: She is near 350 Tons Burthen, pierced for 20 Guns, and had 30 Men. The Nightingale chased her for 14 Hours, in which Time she threw over-board six of her Cannon; she is valued at 20,000*l*. There was a Danish Ship in Company with her.

Capt. Grigg arrived here on Friday last in seven Weeks from Cork, and informs, that just before he sailed Capt. Crawford came into that Port in three Days from Amsterdam, and declared before Authority, That from Paris, Accounts were brought to Amsterdam, which particularized an Action near the Island of Minorca, between the Fleets under Byng and West, and the French Fleet under de la Galissoniere, in which the latter, after an obstinate Engagement, had three Ships of the Line sunk, and two taken: And that the English had a 20 Gun Ship blown up, called the Phoenix, Capt. Hervey.

Capt. Hill, in 39 Days from Madeira, says, That the Spanish Ambassador at Lisbon, had received a Courier, intimating to him, That the British and French Fleets had an Engagement near Minorca of some Hours, when both Sides made a drawn Battle of it; the French Admiral in order to resist, and Admiral Byng with an Intent the better to land the Forces he had on board as a Reinforcement to Fort St. Philip, which, it was reported, he had effected with some Difficulty, and then put out to Sea to engage the Enemy again.

By Capt. Hill we have the following Extracts, viz.

A Letter from Madeira, dated June 15, 1756.

"We this Day received the inclosed Intelligence from Lisbon and Barcelona, and communicate it to you. We also hear Commodore Keppel passed by Gibraltar with six large Ships, the 18th of May, to join Admiral Byng; so that it is likely they may have a second Brush; and hope it may prove more decisive, and to our Advantage."

The subsequent is a Paragraph of a Letter received from Barcelona, dated 22d May, 1756.

"By Letters of the 14th Inst. it is said, that notwithstanding the French had been landed in Minorca near a Month; they had met with such Difficulty in transporting their Artillery, &c. from Citadulla to St. Philip, for want of Cattle to draw it, that to that Day they had made no Attack against that Castle, but that they were in Hopes by the 18th of this Month to have a Battery ready to begin their Fire on Fort-Marborough, a Sort of detached Out-work. We hear Admiral Byng entered the Bay of Gibraltar the first of this Month, with 13 Ships, where he was joined with Commodore Edgecombe's little Squadron, which had escaped from Mahon; that he immediately took on board the

Troops there prepared for the Service, and failed next Day for Minorca, where we hope he has been arrived some Days, as the Master of an English Vessel who arrived here the 19th Inst. from Genoa, tells us, that the 15th Inst. he was within two Leagues of a Squadron of English Men of War, consisting of 17 large Ships, between the Islands of Içira and Majorca; and that one of the said Ships had a blue Flag at her Main Top-mast Head; and as the French Fleet kept cruising near the Entrance of Port-Mahon Harbour, we are in daily Expectation of hearing of an Engagement between the two Fleets, the Success of which will in a great Measure determine the Fate of St. Philip's Castle."

A Letter from Lisbon, dated 4th June, 1756.

"We are now at the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. and send you the above Extract of our Letter from Barcelona, which is genuine; for this Day arrived an Express to the Spanish Ambassador, that there was a naval Fight the 20th ult. between the two Fleets from two in the Morning 'til nine at Night, when the two Fleets retired without a Ship being taken on either Side, so the Success entirely depends on Byng's having thrown Succours into St. Philip. We are, &c."

A Letter from Boston, per Saturday's Mail, July 19.

"Yesterday arrived at Marblehead, a Ship which left Lisbon the 8th of June; and by Letters from thence of the 5th (the Veracity of which may be depended on) we are informed, that News came to Court the Day before, in Substance this; That there had been an Engagement (the Day not mentioned in the Letters) between the British Squadron under Admiral Byng, consisting of 13 Sail only, and the French under Mons. Galissoniere, consisting of 16, near the Island of Minorca, which began between 2 and 3 P. M. and continued with great Obstinacy till the Evening. In this Engagement the former suffered most, but have made as good a Retreat as, considering the great Superiority of the Enemy, could have been expected, having brought off all their Ships, tho' many dismasted. What Port they reached was not known.—This Stroke, it was imagined, would be succeeded by the Surrender of Fort St. Philip.—The Particulars must soon be known, as many Vessels are expected here from the Mediterranean. I am, &c."

Letter from Albany, dated July 18.

"This Morning the last Division of the Provincial Forces marched out of Town for the Forts towards Crown-Point: And General Abercrombie's Regiment is gone to Oswego.

Our Accounts from Oswego are, That fourteen of Col. Bradstreet's Men, who were missing in the Action on the 3d Instant, got safe to that Fort; and that a Detachment was sent out, but got to the Place of Action too late to be of any Service. That the next Day another Detachment, with two Captains and six Subalterns, were sent down to reconnoitre the Woods, and found Numbers of the dead Bodies of the Enemy, as also some of their Muskets, Blankets, &c.—And it is thought we have got near 100 of their Muskets: This last Detachment, while they were out, took a Frenchman Prisoner, who had been in the Action; and had informed Col. Mercer sundry Particulars concerning Catarqui, which is not at present made public.—He declared, that the Party that attacked Col. Bradstreet, had been waiting for the Col. some Time, and were sure of Success; but discovering themselves too soon, under a false Notion of being discovered by our Men, it turned the Tables too severe upon them, Numbers being killed as they were in the Rivers, whilst as many shared the same Fate on Shore."

Another Letter from Albany, dated July 19.

"Capt. Rogers has brought into Fort William-Henry 8 Prisoners, and 4 Scalps, which he took in Lake Champlain, being the whole Crew of two large Whale-Boats, loaded with a very considerable Quantity of Provisions, which he sunk with the Boats. Rogers some how unaccountably got by both the Enemy's Forts, with five Whale-Boats and Fifty Men, undiscovered, cutting a Road thro' the Bushes, and first carrying their Packs, and then their Whale-Boats, on their Shoulders to Lake Champlain. On his Return, he drew his Boats into the Bushes on the Side of the Lake, together with a Pipe of Wine, and another of Brandy, which he took out of the Boats—designed, he says, as a Refreshment to him and his Men when they go upon another such Enterprize that Way."

A Letter from Oswego, dated July 13.

"Col. Bradstreet, in his Engagement the 3d Inst. had 15 Men killed, and about 24 wounded, and his Party killed of the Enemy we suppose 70 or 100, as 70 odd of their Arms were found by our Detachments, which, joined to those found by Col. Bradstreet's Men, denote a considerable Slaughter. As a Reinforcement to Bradstreet was necessary, 200 Men were dispatched from here to assist; but found no Enemy when we arrived at the Place of Action, they having gone, we imagine, to Frontenac.

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