

left at Fort Edward & which were all that he had the Command
of did not exceed 1500 Men. how it happened that there was so great
a Deficiency I know not but it is natural to conclude that None of
the Colonies had furnished above half the Number for which they had
respectively engaged. The Day after Fort William Henry was
besieged General Webb ordered a Letter to be sent to acquaint the
Commanding Officer that he could not make any Attempt to raise
the Siege or to assist him till he should be reinforced by the Mili-
tia of the Neighbouring Colonies & recommended it to him to make the
best Terms he could in Case the Delays of the Militia should put it out
of his Power to bring or afford him any Relief. The Messenger that was
sent with this Letter fell into the Enemy's hands however as they
did not think the Contents were such as would encourage the Garrison
to make an obstinate Defence it was sent to Col: Munroe together
with a Flag of Truce by Order of the French General. The Garrison
continued to make a vigorous Defence four Days after this Letter
was received but as they then despaired of being relieved, & had almost
expended their Ammunition, the Commandant thought fit to surrender
the Fort on the Conditions mentioned in the inclosed Paper. You
will observe that by the Terms of Capitulation the Officers & Soldiers
were to be permitted to carry off their Baggage & the Sick & wounded
that were not in a Condition to be transported to Fort Edward were to be
taken proper Care of by the French Surgeons & returned as soon as
they should be recovered, but notwithstanding this Engagement the
Indians were suffered to scalp all the Sick & wounded before our
People marched out of the Fort & to plunder both the Officers & Men