

sent out Major-General Amherst and Brigadier-General Forbes, continuing Abercromby in his subordinate command.

Loudoun's career had been so signal a failure that he is usually represented by historians as not merely incapable, but as ridiculous. From this correspondence, however, it will be seen that such was by no means the opinion held of him by his brother officers, and his recall was much regretted. No doubt he had immense difficulties to contend with, and a brilliant antagonist for whom he was no match; and perhaps posterity has judged him too harshly.

Pitt's plan was that Amherst should operate against Louisbourg, Abercromby against Crown Point, and Forbes against Fort Du Quesne.

In July, 1758, Abercromby with a force of 15,000 men floated down Lake George to Ticonderoga, where Montcalm was strongly intrenched; but the attempt failed and the English retired with heavy loss.

In August General Bradstreet attacked Fort Frontenac, which surrendered, giving the English the control of Lake Ontario.

Amherst's operations were still more successful. In June he invested Louisbourg with a force of over 12,000 men, Admiral Boscawen co-operating with a fleet, and the place surrendered in July.

The loss of Fort Frontenac and of the fleet on Ontario had cut off the supplies of Fort Du Quesne, whence most of the garrison had been withdrawn to assist in the northern campaign. Forbes was suffering from what proved to be a fatal attack of dysentery; but he advanced against it, though he had to be carried in a litter. Rejecting Braddock's old road, he had a new route surveyed and opened, along which he proceeded slowly and cautiously, fortifying posts as he went. In October, as his advanced parties drew near the fort, the French abandoned it, blowing up the magazine. Forbes then returned to Philadelphia, where he soon after died. Brigadier Stanwix was sent to Fort Du Quesne, where he erected a stockade, which he called Fort Pitt.

Fort Niagara soon after surrendered to a force under Sir William Johnson, and all the west of Canada was now controlled by the British.

In June, 1759, Amherst, who had been made commander-in-chief, moved against Crown Point and Ticonderoga, both which fortresses the French abandoned without resistance.

The operations in the northeast were now resulting brilliantly for the British arms. Quebec surrendered in September, 1759, and Amherst, bringing a powerful force down the St. Lawrence in the next year, laid siege to Montreal, which capitulated on Sept. 8, 1760, and all Canada passed under British rule.

Though the shifting of the theatre of war to the northward relieved Sharpe of his anxiety for the Maryland border-settlements, yet he had plenty of other troubles to worry him, and of these one of the most annoying was the behavior of the Lower House of Assembly. The rise of a factious party and its attitude have been alluded to in the preface to the preceding volume. Though they pretended a zeal for popular liberty, their actions hardly justify such a pretension, and it is evident