

of Lake George, on August 9, 1757, to the French, made the people of the province of New York realize the importance of immediate action on the part of the British Government to prevent the farther advance of the enemy and at the same time recognize the imperative necessity of driving him into Canada as quickly as practicable. As loyal subjects of King George II., they heartily approved the course taken by the crown early in the year 1758, when, on March 25, James De Lancey, his majesty's lieutenant-governor and commander-in-chief, in and over the province of New York, and the territories depending thereon, issued a proclamation for the enlistment of "two thousand six hundred and eighty effective men, officers included, to be employed in conjunction with a body of his majesty's British forces and the forces of the neighbouring colonies against the French settlements in Canada," promising "each able-bodied man entering voluntarily into the said service the sum of ten pounds as a gratuity." As particularized in this provincial call for volunteers, the "rates of pay to the non-commissioned officers and men" were the following: Sergeants, one shilling and eightpence a day; corporals and drummers, one shilling and sixpence; and privates, one shilling and threepence.

Cornelius, the son of Justice Jacobus Swartwout, at that time thirty-six years of age, bore a creditable part in the campaign of 1758 as captain of a company of Dutchess County volunteers. His company served under Major-General Ralph Abercrombie, who undertook the reduction of Fort Carillon at Ticonderoga. Having the command of seven thousand regular British troops, and ten thousand volunteers and militia, furnished by different provinces, "he embarked his forces on Lake George in one hundred and twenty-five whale-boats and nine hundred batteaux, attended by a formidable train of artillery, transported on rafts, with every other requisite of success. In crossing the isthmus between Lake George and Champlain, Lord George Viscount Howe, at the head of the right-centre column, fell in with the advanced guard of the enemy, which, in retreating from Lake George, like the English column, was lost in the woods. He attacked and dispersed them, killing several, and making one hundred and forty-eight prisoners. But, though only two officers on the British side were slain, Lord Howe was one. * * * *

"Learning from the prisoners the force under the walls of Ticonderoga, and that a reinforcement of three thousand men was daily expected, Major-General Abercrombie proposed to storm the place, and caused the works to be reconnoitered. Upon a superficial and imperfect survey, the fatal resolution was taken to attempt the fort, before the artillery arrived. The troops marched intrepidly to the assault, on July 6, but could make no impression; the felled trees in front of the entrenchment, which had been unobserved, and a breast-