

work of eight or nine feet, presented unexpected and insurmountable obstacles, before which the assailants were exposed to a murderous fire for four hours, with a loss of two thousand men.

“ This rash attempt was not more ill-advised than the subsequent hasty retreat. The fort was, in truth, unfinished, and at one point easily approachable, and the garrison did not exceed three thousand men ; and, from the dread of the British, greatly superior in numbers, the French general had actually prepared to abandon this position, with Crown Point.”<sup>1</sup>

After the retreat of Major-General Abercrombie to the south end of Lake George, a detachment of three thousand men, under Colonel John Bradstreet was sent by the way of Albany to reduce Fort Frontenac, at the eastern end of Lake Ontario. On the twenty-seventh of August, the English were in possession of it. This success inspirited Great Britain to prosecute with greater vigor the war against France, in North America.

In a proclamation, dated on March 7, 1759, Lieutenant-Governor James De Lancey made another call for the enlistment in the province of two thousand six hundred and eighty effective men, officers included, promising a bounty of fifteen pounds to each volunteer. “ Whereas,” as he remarks, “ his majesty hath nothing so much at heart as to improve the great and important advantages gained [in the] last campaign as well as to repair the disappointment at Ticonderoga, and by the most vigorous and extensive efforts, to avert, by the blessing of God on his arms, all dangers which may threaten North America from any future irruptions of the French,” all of which were to be accomplished by “ invading Canada and carrying war into the heart of the enemies’ possessions.”

Under this call for provincial troops to serve in the campaign of 1759, Jacobus, the youngest brother of Captain Cornelius Swartwout, was appointed, in 1759, captain of a company of Dutchess County volunteers. The four companies of volunteers raised in the county (the three others being those commanded by Captains John Pawling, Samuel Badgeley, and Richard Rae), were transported by river-craft, in May, to Albany, where they were incorporated in the army of twelve thousand regular and provincial troops commanded by Major-General Jeffrey Amherst, which moved from that city, in July, to attack Fort Carillon. The French, aware of their inability to cope successfully with this large force of British and provincial troops, quickly withdrew from Ticonderoga and Crown Point, leaving the forts there to be occupied by the English forces.

“ In order to complete the reduction of Canada,” Lieutenant-Governor De

<sup>1</sup> Essay on the history of New York, in the Gazetteer of the state of New York, p. 59. By Thomas F. Gordon. 1836.