

but the English, being outflanked by the superior numbers of the French, were driven back into Quebec with the loss of a third of their number.

Quebec was now besieged by the French until, in May, an English fleet arrived and destroyed the vessels which had brought down the stores and ammunition of Levis from Montreal. The French at once broke up their camp and retreated hastily; but all hope was now gone, the loss of Quebec had cut them off from France.

Amherst invaded the country from the English colonies, and the French were driven back to Montreal, before which the united English forces, 17,000 strong, took up their position; on the 8th of September, 1760, Vaudreuil signed the capitulation by which Canada and all its dependencies passed to the English crown. All the French officers, civil and military, and the French troops and sailors, were to be sent back to France in English ships.

James Walsham was not present at the later operations round Quebec. He had been struck in the side by a shot by a lurking Indian when a column had marched out from Quebec a few days after its capture, and for three or four weeks he lay between life and death on board ship. When convalescence set in he found that he was already on blue water, all the serious cases being taken back by the fleet when, soon after the capture of Quebec, it sailed for England. The voyage was a long one, and by the time the fleet sailed with their convoy into Portsmouth harbor James had recovered much of his strength.

An hour after landing he was in a post-chaise on his way home. It seemed strange, indeed, to him as he drove through the little town on his way up to the Hall. He had left it in the beginning of 1755 a raw young fellow of eighteen; he returned in the last month of 1759 a man of twenty-three, with the rank of major and no inconsiderable share of credit and honor. He stopped the vehicle at the lodge gate, had his baggage taken out there, and proceeded on foot toward the Hall, for he was