

arrived. Away on the left some few hundred yards distant was the battery of Samos which had opened a heavy fire on the boats and done some damage ; a little further still was the battery at Sillery, which fired vigorously on the squadron. Wolfe, Murray with the 58th Regiment, and Colonel Howe with the Light Infantry, went to capture the Samos battery ; this was accomplished after a smart skirmish, and then the battery at Sillery was attacked and silenced also.

Selecting
the
battlefield.

The British, numbering now between three and four thousand, stood undisputed masters of what were believed to be inaccessible cliffs. As the morning broke, cloudy and misty, and Wolfe surveyed the cornfields and the woods and the undulating country rising away towards Quebec, who shall say, who can for an instant understand, what his feelings were ? He knew that the apparently impossible having been accomplished the feat was the beginning of the end either for his army or Montcalm's. But he went about his business as coolly as ever he paraded his men at Inverness or at Dover. Behind him were the cliffs of the St. Lawrence rendering retreat out of the question ; on his left already attracted by the firing was Bougainville, with a force almost half as strong as his own ; on his right lay Quebec, with Vandreuil and Montcalm and de Ramesay ; straight in front the very land lying between the St. Lawrence and the Charles which in his letter to his uncle three months before he had contemplated occupying at the opening of the campaign. He was no doubt as familiar with every inch of the ground as any man could be who had never had the opportunity of looking upon it before. A little reconnoitring and he made up his mind where he would take his stand for the