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ALONG THE LINE.

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Steady by your beacons blaze,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Freely sing dear Freedom's praise,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Let the only sword you draw
 Bear the legend of the law,
 Wield it less to strike than awe,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Let them sail against the north,
 Beyond the line! beyond the line!
 When it sends its heroes forth
 Along the line! along the line!
 On the field, or in the camp
 They shall tremble at your tramp,
 Men of the old Norman stamp,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Wealth and pride may rear their crests,
 Beyond the line! beyond the line!
 They bring no terror to our breasts,
 Along the line! along the line!
 We have never bought or sold
 Afric's sons with Mexic's gold
 Conscience arms the free and bold,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Steadfast stand and sleepless ward.
 Along the line! along the line!
 Great the treasures that you guard
 Along the line! along the line!
 By the babes whose sons shall be
 Crowned in far futurity
 With the laurels of the free,
 Stand your guard along the line.

THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1754-64.

CHAPTER XVII.

On the morning of the 5th of May, Madame St. Aubin, the wife of one of the principal French settlers, crossed over from the western side to the Ottawa village to purchase venison and maple sugar; she was surprised to find several of the warriors engaged in fling off the barrels of their guns so as to reduce them stock and all to about the length of three feet—returning in the evening she mentioned what she had seen to several of her neighbors, and the blacksmith of the village remarked that many of the Indians had lately visited his shop and attempted to borrow files and saws for a purpose they would not explain. There were doubtless many in the settlement who might have, if they had chosen, revealed the whole plot, but it is equally certain that the more

numerous and respectable class of Canadians had too deep an interest in the preservation of peace to countenance the designs of Pontiac, and one of them, M. Gouin, an old and wealthy settler, went to the commandant and conjured him to stand upon his guard, but Gladwyn, a man of fearless temper, gave no heed to the advice.

The detachment which he commanded was composed of the skeleton of three companies of the 80th Regiment and some Provincial rangers; the 46th were at Niagara, the 55th at Oswego, and the 42nd and part of the 77th at Fort Pitt. Major Gladwyn, the commandant at Detroit, was a good type of the British officer at that period, cool, wary, fearless and enterprising, with the unflinching resolution that knows no defeat, and the stubborn obstinacy which would succumb to no danger. British prestige and Empire have been repeatedly upheld at its direst extremity by such men—behind the walls of Londonderry and the earthen ramparts of Enniskillen; seventy-five years previously the same qualities had turned the tide of fortune—while the lines of Lucknow bore witness ninety-four years later that they were hereditary—but to those admirable qualifications one great drawback was added. Such men have generally a feeling of indifference amounting to contempt for their antagonists, especially if they differ as in this case in the colour of their skin and the "d—d niggers" opportunities for mischief was proportionably increased.

Timely notice of the intended treachery of Pontiac was conveyed to Major Gladwyn from sources which he could not disregard. Many romantic stories are told about those circumstances, but the weight of the evidence is in favor of that which makes an Ojibwa girl living in the Pottawattamie village the informant, by whom the whole plot was betrayed. As the correct story goes she came to the Fort on the evening of the 6th May with a pair of Elkskin moccasins for the commandant, and told him on the next day Pontiac and sixty of his principal followers would come to the Fort, each armed with a short gun hidden beneath the folds of his blanket. Pontiac would demand a council

and after delivering his speech he would offer a peace belt of wampum, holding it in a reversed position—this was to be the signal for attack—the followers or chiefs were to spring up and fire upon the officers while the Indians who had been quietly concentrating in small numbers in the streets were to fall upon the garrison—every Englishman was to be exterminated, but the Canadians and French were to remain untouched.

Gladwyn was a man of singular courage and address, he thanked his informant and promising a rich reward bade her go back to her village that no suspicion might rest on her—then calling the officers of the garrison together he imparted what he had heard. The defences of the place were feeble and extensive, the garrison far too weak to stand a general assault, but, ordering half the troops under arms, himself and officers paced the wooden ramparts all night lest accident might precipitate the Indian's design; no attempt however was made, but the wind brought sounds of fearful portent to the ear—the sullen boom of the Indian drum and the chorus of wild yells as the warriors danced their war dance in preparation for the morrow's work of destruction.

At sunrise on the morning of the 7th May, a fleet of birch bark canoes was observed crossing the river from the Eastern bank above the Fort, they appeared to be deeply laden, but only two or three warriors were visible in each, they were however filled with armed savages lying in the bottom of each to prevent suspicion of any hostile design on their part.

At an early hour the common behind the Fort was thronged with squaws, children and warriors, some naked, others fantastically arrayed in their barbarous finery—all seemed restless and uneasy, moving hither and thither in apparent preparation for a general game of ball. Many tall warriors wrapped in their blankets were seen stalking towards the Fort, and were admitted without ceremony, for Gladwyn had some knowledge of Indian character and chose to convince his crafty foe that though their plot was detected their hostility was despised. The whole garrison was under arms and the fur traders