

of 3,381 soldiers of all arms, and 2,606 sailors and marines, total 5,987. The Governor advised of the approach of the English fleet closed the harbor by sinking six ships in the channel and intrenched positions East and West of the Port for ten leagues each way; in the harbor were 5 line of battle ships and 5 frigates. It would appear that the landing was not effected without difficulty as the French were in force to oppose it, but Gen. Whitmore designing to land at Cape Blanc, the French, to prevent being cut off from the Garrison, retreated after having 200 men killed. Immediately afterwards the whole of the covering batteries were captured, and as some were within range of the fortress their guns were turned on it. The siege was now pressed with vigor and characteristic caution, every foot of ground gained was permanently secured. Amherst's journal of the siege, a marvel of brevity and perspicuity, details from day to day the progress made, the incessant activity displayed and the precautions taken, at length three of the line of battle ships being burned and two captured by cutting out from under the guns of the Garrison by Boscawen's seamen with a loss of 7 killed, the fortifications laid open and as Wolfe described it, "no shelter left for officers or men, the fortress surrendered at discretion on the 26th of July, 1500 of the Garrison having fallen in its defence, the loss of the besiegers was 400 men. The following capitulation was granted:

Articles of capitulation between their Excellencies Admiral Boscawen and Major General Amherst and His Excellency the Chevalier Drucourt, Governor of the Island of Cape Breton, of Louisburg, the Island of St. John and their dependencies.

ARTICLE I.—The Garrison of Louisburg shall be prisoners of war and shall be carried to England in the ships of His Britannic Majesty.

ART. II.—All artillery, ammunition, provisions, as well as the arms of any kind whatsoever, which are at present in the town of Louisburg, the Island of Cape Breton and St. John and their dependencies, shall be delivered without the least damage to such Commissioners as shall be appointed to receive them for the use of His Britannic Majesty.

ART. III.—The Governor shall give his orders that the troops which are in the Island of St. John and its dependencies shall go on board such ships of war as the Admiral shall send to receive them.

ART. IV.—The gate, called Port Dauphine, shall be given up to the troops of His Britannic Majesty to-morrow, at eight o'clock in the morning, and the garrison, including all those that carried arms, drawn up at noon on the Esplanade where they shall lay down their arms, colors, implements and ornaments of war, and the garrison shall go on board in order to be carried to England in a convenient time.

ART. V.—The same care shall be taken of the sick and wounded that are in the hospitals as of those belonging to His Britannic Majesty.

ART. VI.—The merchants and their clerks that have not carried arms shall be sent to France in such manner as the Admiral shall think proper.

Signed,

LE CHEVALIER DE DRUCOURT,
EDWD. BOSCAWEN,
JEFFREY AMHERST.

Louisburg, 26th July, 1758.

From the date of the surrender till the 30th of August was spent by Gen. Amherst in operations which paved the way for Wolfe's final success at Quebec. Possession was taken of Cape Breton and its dependencies, an expedition fitted out to destroy the settlements at Gaspé and the Bay of Chaleurs, and to penetrate as far up the St. Lawrence as possible. While Amherst was thus actively and successfully engaged in

adding to his own renown, restoring lustre to the tarnished military reputation of his country and extending the dominions of his Sovereign by substantial conquests, his Commander-in-chief Abercrombie was quite as busily employed in bringing disgrace on the military reputation of Great Britain, and by inexcusable paltriness aggravating the disaster his incapacity occasioned. An army of 6,367 regular British troops, 9,024 Provincial soldiers and 500 savages, led by Sir W. Johnson, in all 15,891 fighting men, assembled early in July beside the charred ruins of what had been Fort William Henry. On the morning of the 5th the troops embarked on board 900 batteaux and 135 whale boats, towing a number of rafts carrying the heavy stores, ammunition and cannon, so that each was a floating battery. At noon of the 6th July the troops effected a landing at the foot of Lake George called the Narrows. Vaudreuil's plan of campaign was to have taken the initiative: to throw a strong force of 3000 regulars and Canadians on the Southern shores of Lake Ontario, advance to Shenectady, compel the Six Nations already wavering to renounce their alliance with the British, and compel the latter to abandon the Champlain frontier by concentrating at Albany for the defence of New York. This scheme was vehemently opposed by Montcalm who did not understand the topography of the country as well as the Governor General, and who could not conceive the possibility of detaching a large force so far from its supports without magazines, base of operations, and all their requisites. It is more than probable if this operation was attempted early in the season with the proved incapacity of the British General, it might have been eminently successful; the force had actually assembled at La Presentation (Ogdensburg) under De Lévis, when Bourlamaque communicated the intelligence that Abercrombie had concentrated a large force at Fort Edward and was preparing to move upon his position. The original order to De Lévis was countermanded and his force sent forward to Fort St. Frederic, whither Montcalm, after some rather wrangling with Vaudreuil, followed them on the 24th. On his arrival he found the chief part of the troops posted at Carillon (Ticonderoga) where he arrived on the 30th, and was surprised to find Abercrombie preparing to descend the Lake. Leaving a guard of 400 men at Fort St. Frederic Montcalm *delivered* his troops from the foot of Lake George to Carillon; this Lake is a narrow and beautiful sheet of water studded with islands and joined to Lake Champlain by a narrow and tortuous channel called by the French the La Chute River of four miles in length. This river is broken into a number of falls or rapids; Lake George is 157 feet above the level of Lake Champlain; as the course of the river is generally from South to North immediately above the point where its waters mingle with those of Lake Champlain it takes a sudden bend to the Eastward and almost immediately returns towards the West, forming a peninsula within which on the Western shore the famous Fort of Carillon or Ticonderoga was placed. The river and lake shores formed two sides of a triangle within which the works stood on a series of rocky elevations, having a depth

from the apex to the base of 400 yards; the latter was formed of a series of swamps and might be 600 yards across; the longest side of the triangle described being on the river the escarpment of which was steep with a strand of 50 yards wide towards the lake, the hills sloped gradually down from the works which thus occupied the highest point within what may be called an equilateral triangle.

Immediately on landing the British troops formed in four columns and began their march, without artillery or heavy baggage which could not be transported till the bridges, which the advanced guard of the enemy had burned, should be repaired. As the river was not navigable, owing to the rapids, it was along the *portage* road between Lakes George and Champlain the troops advanced, and as the French were careful to break down the bridges which crossed a considerable stream midway between the Fort and upper lake it was a matter of necessity to repair it. Almost at the outset the misfortunes of the British commenced, the approaches to the Fort were covered by a dense forest with heavy underbrush, through this it was attempted to lead masses of troops in close column, review order, as a natural consequence they impeded each other, the guides were unskilful, got confused, and, to increase the perplexity, the advance under Lord Howe fell in with a body of the enemy under M. De Treppeeze, whom Bourlamaque had sent out to reconnoitre but who had lost his way, having fallen back before Howe's advance, and after wandering some time in the swamps return to the post from which he started to find it occupied by a British force more numerous than his own, and equally perplexed. A smart skirmish ensued; two-thirds of De Treppeeze's force were killed, drowned, or taken prisoners, the rest reached Bourlamaque at La Chute bringing with them their commander and another officer mortally wounded. Their loss was 300 killed and wounded and 148 taken prisoners, while, on the side of the British, 40 were killed and wounded, amongst the former was Lord Howe who fell at the commencement of the attack. It would appear that this young officer had won the confidence and respect of the troops in no ordinary degree, and that his death threw a considerable gloom over their prospects; he seems to have been Abercrombie's principal adviser and to be indeed the only person in the force capable of exerting sufficient authority towards the execution of the purposes of the expedition. Immediately on his fall the troops were ordered to retire to the beach where they had landed; the advance was placed under the command of Colonel Bradstreet, while Rogers with 400 rangers pushed forward, rebuilt the bridges, drove the French from their position at the lower rapids where they had erected some Saw Mills and enabled Abercrombie to advance on the night of the 9th July and encamp there. Meantime Montcalm with a force of regulars and Canadians numbering 3,650 men was busily engaged in covering the paltry Fort with intrenchments, the work itself which might have held 500 men, was a quadrangle with bastions at the corners and lunettes defending the curtains; on the land side it could neither make resistance nor afford cover. The intrenchments were formed on the base of the triangle within which the Fort stood, and followed the contour of the heights described, which gave it the shape of a semicircle with the concave side towards the advance of the British troops, it was about 600 yards in length and five feet in height, formed of logs laid over each other and covered in front by an abatis of trees