

was, that if we should land between the Town & the River Cap Rouge, the Body first landed could not be reinforced before they were attack'd by the Enemy's whole Army. Notwithstanding these difficultys I thought once of attempting it at St. Nicholas, about three miles above the Town ; But perceiving that the Enemy were jealous of the design, were preparing against it, and had actually brought Artillery & a Mortar (which, being so near to Quebec, they could increase as they pleased) to play upon the Shipping ; And as it must have been many hours before we could attack them (even supposing a favourable night for the Boats to pass by the town unhurt) It seem'd so hazardous that I thought it best to desist.

However, to divide the Enemy's force, & to draw their attention as high up the River as possible, And to procure some Intelligence I sent a detachment under the Command of Colonel Carleton, to land at the Point de Trempe,<sup>1</sup> to attack whatever he might find there, bring off some Prisoners, & all the usefull Papers he could get. I had been inform'd, that a Number of the Inhabitants of Quebec had retired to that Place, and that probably we should find a Magazine of Provisions there.

The Colonel was fired upon by a Body of Indians, the Moment he landed, but they were soon dispersed, & driven into the Woods : He search'd for Magazines, but to no purpose, brought off some Prisoners, & return'd with little loss. After this business I came back to Montmorenci, where I found that Brigadier Townshend had by a superior fire prevented the French from erecting a Battery on the bank of the River, from whence they intended to cannonade our Camp. I now resolv'd to take the first opportunity which presented itself of attacking the Enemy, tho' posted to great advantage, & everywhere prepared to receive us.

As the Men of War cannot (for want of a sufficient depth of Water) come near enough to the Enemy's Intrenchments to annoy them in the least ; The Admiral had prepared two Transports (drawing but little water) which upon occasions could be run aground, to favour a Descent. With the help of these Vessels, which I understood would be carry'd by the Tide close in shore, I propos'd to make myself Master of a detach'd Redoubt near to the Water's Edge, & whose situation appear'd to be out of Musquet Shot of the Intrenchment upon the Hill : If the Enemy supported this detach'd piece, it would necessarily bring on an Engagement, what we most wish'd for ; And if not, I should have it in my Power to examine their

<sup>1</sup> Pointe Aux Trembles