

to the position. The reply by the Governor was such as might have been expected in response to the arrogant terms laid down in Phipps' summons, and when the messenger asked a written answer, the Count replied, "Retire Sir; tell your general that the muzzle of my cannon will forthwith bear my answer to the rude summons he has sent me." True to his word, the orders were given and the batteries opened upon the enemy with telling effect. Sir Wm. sought by strategy to gain an advantage over the enemy, but signally failed, and retired from the conflict leaving the artillery he had landed as a prize to the French. Such is a brief account of the event which is commemorated on the medal known as the "Kebeka Liberata," and which was struck by order of the French King.

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#### MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC IN 1759.



At this period Montreal contained 4,000 inhabitants, Three Rivers 1,500, and Quebec 6,700, the total population of the colony being estimated at 90,000—8,000 of whom were Indians. Nevertheless the military organization of the Province was so perfect that Montreal alone had a militia force of about 1,000 effective men. This was by virtue of the Feudal Law of Fiefs, which obliged every man in the colony—the Noblesse excepted—to enroll himself in the militia, and provided for the appointment of a Captain in every Parish, who was responsible to Government for the drill and good order of his men.

Smith, in his History of Canada, states that "when the Government wanted the services of the Militia as soldiers, the Colonel of Militia, or the Town Majors, in consequence of a requisition from the Governor General, sent orders to the several Captains of Militia in the Country Parishes, to furnish a certain number of Militiamen chosen by those officers, who ordered the drafts into town under an escort