

John Zamoyski, a Pole, two hundred years before the time of the distinguished Frenchman. The last words of William Pitt have been variously rendered as, "Oh, my country! how I love my country!" and "Oh my country! how I leave my country!" The latter words are the best authenticated, and yet in the more obscure circles of political gossip in England there has been current a strange story that the real last words of the English statesman were, "I should like one of Bellamy's pork pies." A denial is made of the story that Nelson's last signal at Trafalgar was, "England expects every man to do his duty," and it is asserted that what he did signal the fleet was, "Have the men had their breakfasts?" The oddest story I can now call to mind about the last words of a commander before going into battle, is that related by by a certain Gen. Bismark, who flourished several generations ago. He declared that at Benhela, just before the battle, the Duke of Marlborough was in his coach surrounded by his servants, who were making up his dirty linen. An aide-de-camp to Prince Eugene rode up to ask if the allied forces should begin the advance, whereupon his Grace replied, "Not till my washing is ready." It was Carlyle who deprived the French guards of the credit of saying, "Fire first, Messieurs the English"; and the saying, long attributed to Talleyrand, that "language was given to us to disguise our thoughts," was, it appears, first made by Voltaire. More than 150 years before General Lee talked of "dying in the last ditch," William of Orange wrote to the States General to say that it was the duty of every Dutchman to die, if necessary, in the last ditch to defend the country from the ambition of Louis XIV.

The very pretty story of our own General Wolfe at Quebec has a halo of doubt thrown about it.

When Wolfe was superintending the passage of his boats with muffled oars to the place he had selected for landing