

panied by the indescribable cries of the savages, which seemed to come back from the forests, and which could be seen from no part of the line, had begun already to throw into partial disorder the advanced guard. But the officers, reanimating and exciting the courage of their soldiers, made them as immovable as a wall, and holding them thus in the road, exposed them to a most murderous crossfire and one which tore great gaps in their ranks. At this juncture, Braddock began to advance in all haste certain pieces of artillery charged with grape.

"On the third discharge M. de Beaujeu was killed. Also Lieutenant de Carqueville, who was fighting by his side, fell.

"This death of their beloved chief, so cruel to the French and the Canadians, was the occasion of their slacking during the moments immediately following. Already the English, thinking that they saw them giving way, began to give their cheers of victory. Then the Canadians and the French, excited by the ardent words of M. de Ligneris and of Captain Dumas, who was now first in command of the troops, returned to their charge with irresistible fury, accompanying it with their oft-repeated cries of 'Vive le Roi!' On their side the savages redoubled their efforts, showing preference for the officers, many of whom were already hors de combat among the heaps of slain and wounded.

"In this brief interval General Braddock, whose rear guard had now reached the plain, had ordered Colonel Burton to advance rapidly with his companies in the center to the rescue of the advanced guard. When Burton, obedient to the commands of his chief, made every effort to carry out this movement, the advanced guard, taking to their heels, suddenly broke through in disorder and threw into fatal confusion his troops, which were advancing to their succor.

"Soon the companies found themselves in such a melee that they could not go through their evolutions with anything like skill.

"Then the soldiers became deaf to the voice of their chiefs, and did not heed anything but the fearful fusillade and the cries