

*LORD AMHERST'S HEAD-QUARTERS,  
MONTREAL.*

[8th September, 1760.]

The site of Lord Amherst's camp immediately prior to the capitulation of Montreal in 1760, has been referred to lately by several of our local historians and a *photo* of the ruins of the old "farm house" on the plateau immediately beyond the crest of the Cote-des-Neiges Hill, has been published in the "Dominion Illustrated" as the place where these articles of capitulation were signed. I contribute my mite to the traditional story generally accepted, awaiting documentary evidence of which I understand none exists.

The story as narrated to myself many years since by an old British officer in charge of St. Helen's Island when it was occupied by the imperial troops was this : That Lord Amherst with his army having advanced through the State of New York toward Canada, took to his boats at Oswego, crossed Lake Ontario, ran the rapids of "Long Sault," "Cedars" and "Cascades" (where he suffered heavy loss) and landed at Lachine. There he abandoned his boats at the entrance to a canal or small river in that neighbourhood,\* and then advanced on the city by land. This much is authenticated.

The route taken from Lachine to Montreal is not known with certainty, but it is generally admitted that he did not follow the river bank; and to avoid the low swampy islands on the Rivière St. Pierre level, gained the Blue Bonnets terrace, and then struck across country to the heights commanding the city known as the Trafalgar property

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\* Within the last few years, boats embedded in the weeds have been found at the entrance of what is known as the Old Lachine Canal, a few acres south of the mouth of the first provincial canal between Lachine and Montreal.