

For it looks most strange that with all the former known materials in hand and the accretion of the present documentary information received and at his early disposal, Mr. Doughty, in first instance and by his paper, should have woefully failed to arrive at a true and correct conclusion on the main object of his contention, as to the battle of the Plains of Abraham, that is to say, the real position of the armies when ready to engage; and should have produced in support thereof a plan of the battle such as his Plan A, by him affirmed, *bonâ fide*, to be then perfectly accurate.

And what is more surprising is to see his collaborators, specially Mr. Chambers having remained so long "blind" over palpable errors, apparent to the naked eye on this Plan A.

This arraignment, improbable as it may seem at first, is nevertheless but too well grounded.

It needs no further proof than the preliminary one drawn from the own showing of the four joint collaborators. For without disclaiming or in any way discarding the first plan and finding of Mr. Doughty, upon whose faith they assumed both to be accurate and trustworthy, but, on the contrary extolling them as entirely reliable and conclusive, they now come out with a very different version and a totally changed plan of battle.

This, of course, is a tacit but an unavoidable admission of the previous mistake; which it would have been more proper to candidly acknowledge, as soon as it was perceived by them, particularly when they could not help seeing the utterly false position given to both armies, since their attention was called to it by an article in the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, August 4th, 1900.

Otherwise, if these writers allow both plans and respective versions to subsist on the same footing and be reputed as equally true and correct, the reader will remain at a loss to make a choice as to the one to be relied on; or may be inclined *a priori* to reject both as antagonistic, because they are drawn from the same materials and sources.

Under the modest title "The Probable Site of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham," Mr. Doughty has determined positively this exact site according to his conception of it in 1899.

In view of elucidating the two main objects and ultimate conclusions of his paper, that is to say: first, the disposition of the contending armies in battle array on the field, and secondly the complete elimination of the Race-course as part of that field, he has marshalled his evidence and arguments with such seductive ingenuity and consummate skill as to

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, April 2nd, 1900. Mr. Doughty's able contribution on the subject; also *id.*, May 3, 1903. *North American Notes and Queries*, June, 1900, and August, 1900.