

sides is a deep ditch, filled with water, which secures the inhabitants against all danger from sudden incursions of the enemy. It cannot, however, stand a long siege, as on account of its extent, it would require a large garrison. The gates are numerous, there being five on the river side."

Fortunately the inhabitants were not exposed to much danger or suffering at the hands of an enemy, and we question whether any fortified city ever fell more easily into the hands of its captors, than did the good City of Montreal, when on the morning of the 8th of September 1760, Amherst's\* army entered with colors flying and drums beating, to take possession of its forts and towers, and on that day from its walls was thrown to the breeze the red banner of England.

In view of the following letter from a French officer, can we wonder that the brave Vaudreuil should have accepted the terms proposed. No more desperate position could be conceived. The writer states: "We were shut up in Montreal. Amherst's army appeared in sight on the side towards the Lachine gate, on the 7th September, about 3 in the afternoon, and General Murray, with his army from Quebec appeared two hours after at the opposite side of the town. Thus the black crisis was at hand for the fate of Canada. Montreal was no ways susceptible of a defence. It was surrounded with walls, built with design only to preserve the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians, little imagining at that time, that it would become the theatre of a regular war, and that one day they would see formid-

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\* Jeffrey, Lord Amherst, was born in Kent, England, January 29th, 1717. He entered the Army in 1731. In 1758, (16th March), he sailed from Portsmouth, as Major-General, having command of the troops destined for the siege of Louisbourg, which place he captured on the 26th of July following. In 1759 he commanded one of the armies formed for the conquest of Canada. Having captured several minor forts, Montreal surrendered to his army, on the 8th September, 1760. He continued in command in Canada until 1763, when he returned to England. For his gallant services he was (in 1776) created Baron Amherst of Holmdale in Kent, and in 1782 received another Patent as Baron Amherst of Montreal. He died (leaving no issue) at his seat in Kent, August 3, 1791.