

In the city there was left a garrison of about a thousand men under the command of Chevalier de Ramézay, all the city gates being closed, with the exception of Palace Gate, which, with its near approaches strengthened more than were those of the other gates, was left open as a ready exit for the detachments on their way to the bridge of boats.

Montcalm's line of defence thus extended from Ringfield all the way to the Montmorency, and from Ringfield by the way of the fortified boom across the St. Charles, to the city's walls, the right wing, centred near what is now known as La Canardière, or duck-feeding ground, to the west of the site of the Beauport Asylum, being in charge of Chevalier de St. Ours, and the left wing at Montmorency in charge of Chevalier de Lévis. Thus had those in authority, ignoring for the most part the danger that might spring up in the rear of the city, made strong their position in Beauport; and when it is seen from the topography of the place, that the Lévis side of the river was as much in need of being fortified as the Beauport side, it is not difficult to locate the mistake which General Wolfe, not having it pertinently in his mind from the first, took advantage of later, when he found it impossible to force the Montmorency wing of his adversary's army or any other part of it, stretched out as it was into the city along a distance of over seven miles.

In a word, it was the repulse at Montmorency that brought Wolfe face to face with his opponent's self-conscious mistake. In venturing to challenge De Lévis at Montmorency, he had thought that Montcalm, fearing the onset against his left wing, would have concentrated his forces towards its support, and