

The Quebec Battlefields.

By JOHN BOYD.



(Written by a Canadian on the occasion of the Quebec Tercentenary celebration and dedicated to Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, to whose efforts the success of the national movement for the preservation of the Quebec battlefields is largely due.)



I.

Would that the muse that didst inspire
The poets of old, princes of song,
Would give to one a clarion voice to sing
The glories of these battlefields.
Not in feeble numbers should those deeds be sung
But in resounding notes, giant words of praise,
Befitting both the actors and the scene,
As sang the immortal bard of old,
'These great deeds that are the sacred seeds
And proper subjects of a poet's song.' (1)

II.

Stupendous struggle, the stake an empire,
The conflict through the long drawn summer,
Wolfe daring all upon a desperate chance,
His forces marshalled in the midnight darkness,