

Thanks are due to M. de Kerallain, of Quimper, France, for the presentation of a collection of correspondence respecting M. de Bougainville. That officer was originally an advocate in Paris, devoted himself to science, then joined the army, and subsequently became secretary to the embassy at London. It is, however, his services during the war in Canada that render his history of interest to Canadians. The letter numbered 11 in the collection gives the date of his arrival and affords proof of his home sickness and of his longing to return to France and to those who were the objects of his affection. This did not prevent him from devoting himself to the defence of the country and to a knowledge of its requirements, as he wrote to Madame Herault in September (no day given) of 1757, that he would inform himself, as far as in him lay, of everything that concerned the colony. His conclusions were that the rascality of those in office was the cause of the bad state of the colony, on which he sent a memoire, which he hoped would help to put an end to the frauds committed by those in office. He says that but for their follies and wrong doing, the campaign of that year (1757) would have been entered upon six weeks earlier than it was. He also stated that the robberies committed by the Indians at Fort William Henry were encouraged by persons who called themselves natives of France, from the greed of grain, believing that they could purchase the plunder from the Indians at a low price. In November, 1757, Bougainville had sanguine hopes of success for the arms of France, and that a peace favourable to his country could be secured. His services did not escape the notice of his commanding officers, who wrote in terms of confidence that he would do everything for the best and could be entirely relied upon in the carrying out of every measure of defence with which he was entrusted. According to the "Narrative," ascribed to Chevalier Johnstone, M. de Bougainville was sent in the spring after the fall of Quebec to command at Isle Aux Neix, with 1,100 men, "of which number were the regiment of Guienne and Berry." Bougainville's career after he left Canada is contained in the history of maritime discovery and need not be dealt with here.

On the 22nd September, 1759, after the fall of Quebec, he wrote to Madame Herault in these terms. I translate.

At the Camp of Lorette, 22nd September, 1759.

I take advantage of the departure of the garrison from Quebec to give you my news, my dear mamma. M. de Joannes, aide major of the regiment of Languedoc, who will hand you this letter and whom I recommend to your goodness, has taken part in the campaign, having charge of the arrangements of the corps which I commanded. Thus you will learn from him everything that I cannot write you by this opportunity. This most unfortunate affair has deprived us of our general. M. Joannes was there and can render you an account of it. I am penetrated with grief and every moment increases it. I have felt it my duty to follow the fate of this colony. The memory of my general and the critical circumstances in which his death leaves this country, are a bond which attaches me to it. I may say that I have served successfully. For two months I have defended the communication against a fleet and forces much superior to those which I had; with 350 men I repulsed twice in the same day 1,500 men, killing or wounding 300 of them. After the affair of the 13th September, I covered the retreat of our army, and when Quebec capitulated I was only three-quarters of a league from it, and could have thrown myself into it the following night with a *corps d'elite*, which might have saved it. Now I have been entrusted with a reserve of 1,200 men, and I continue a painful campaign,