



# The Volunteer Review

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FOR "THE REVIEW."

### THE SEA-SHELL.

BY MARY A. M'IVER.

Hesent me this shell from a tropical shore,  
As a constant reminder of moments of yore,  
And he said:—"As the shell overdreams of the sea,  
My heart is still haunted by memories of thee."

Then I placed the curved lips of his gift to my ear,  
And the waves' distinct chorus rose murmur'ingly  
near,  
And I said, "Now sweet sybil the mystery tell  
Of what in thy far-sounding caverns may dwell."

Then, I heard, as I listened, glad snatchings of song,  
But their meaning was lost as they floated along,  
Till a story of shipwreck rolled in on my brain,  
The wild phantom-surges its mournful refrain.

All sounds of the ocean thus cherished so well,  
Were breathed by the spirit that dwelt in the  
shell,  
Till I said,—"Ah, thy legends are many asooth,  
But tell me some tale of the friends of my youth."

Then I heard the low murmur of waves on a beach,  
Which these home-loving footsteps, oh, never  
may reach,  
While the lone lay of shipwreck was sung o'er  
and o'er,  
And the sweet song of gladness was never heard  
more.

Ottawa, July, 1868.

### THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1754-64.

#### CHAPTER XVI.

The extinction of French power on the North American continent was supposed to have prepared the way for a season of universal peace and progress throughout the British colonies, but the disturbing forces which kept a state of chronic hostilities alive from 1744 were still at work, and one or two bloody campaigns were necessary before they were so far neutralised as to promise secure enjoyment of the possessions won at so much trouble and suffering.

The compact *military despotism* which characterised the administration of the French colonies in America was favorable to those measures which cultivated a good understanding and thorough friendship with the Aboriginal inhabitants, because it aimed at utilising their soldierly qualities and also monopolising their trade in *furs*, the only commerce in existence throughout their possessions, or indeed the only form of trade

of which they were capable. The loose and often *lawless* administration of the English colonies exercised no controul or supervision over Indian trade or interests, the men that carried on the one systematically violated the rights and disregarded the interests of the Aborigines—considered them as useless incumberers of the soil and a nuisance to be destroyed as quickly as possible. Hence the feelings, sympathies and wishes of the Aborigines were with the French, while before and after the conquest of Canada English friendship or rule was hateful to the great mass of the Indian population.

On the 10th day of February, 1763, a treaty of Peace was signed at Versailles which finally placed all the French possessions in America in the hands of the British, but to which the Aboriginal inhabitants were no parties nor did they acquiesce in its provisions. It would appear that ever since the capture of Frontenac a determination had been arrived at by the Indians to attempt single handed what they had failed to accomplish united with the French—the expulsion of the British from the Northern frontier and central settlements. This determination will explain the withdrawal of the Indian allies at a time when their services would have been of great value, viz. during Forbes's advance on Du Quesne, at the siege of Niagara, and notoriously at Quebec—there appears in the first place to have been an inclination to watch the game for their own advantage and finally to strike when opportunity offered. In pursuance of this policy they had collected large quantities of arms and ammunition, as early as 1756, they had commenced to lay by large hoards of the latter—an attack made on the Indian town of Kittaning in that year disclosed this fact, as great part of the loss suffered by the Indians arose from the explosion of gunpowder stored in the log cabins of their chiefs and principal warriors.

The immediate cause of the outbreak of hostilities appear to have been those already indicated coupled with the neglect of the English Government to provide the customary presents the suspension of trade caused by the war rendering it impossible for the

Indians to provide ammunition on which their livelihood depended—the insolence of the soldiers to the natives, and the well founded hostilities of the Shawnees and Delawares caused by the lawless encroachment of the frontier settlers of Virginia and Pennsylvania on their lands.

On the fatal 9th of July, 1753, amongst the host of *invisible* foes which struck down Braddock's troops the Ottawas led by their chieftain Pontiac were not the least conspicuous. This remarkable man is reported to have been born of an Ojibewa mother, his father being chief of the Ottawas—possessed of cool crafty courage, haughty, reserved, and treacherous, pretending to be endowed with supernatural gifts—of rare magnanimity—generous to his friends—possessed of that powerful and stimulating eloquence necessary to captivate the savage mind, it is no wonder he exercised despotic sway over the various tribes with whom he came in contact. With a keen and subtle intellect and all those great qualities he was a thorough savage, ignorant, prejudiced, and treacherous, with no higher aspirations than to lead his followers back to the habits of his forefathers when they chased the beasts of the forest hardly less wild than themselves with flint arrows and lances and axes of stone or bronze.

The constant intercourse of the Indians with the trading posts and forts made them aware that the garrisons were very weakly manned. The expedition to the Havana and the operations of 1761-2 in the West Indies had absorbed the greater part of the force which conquered Canada, a portion of the plague-stricken remnants had returned and were about to sail for England to be disbanded when events occurred, which rendered the services of every man available necessary. French Traders and settlers had also instilled the idea into the minds that the English intended to exterminate them, and no doubt expressions let fall at the capture of Isle Royale in 1760, by officers and others, encouraged that opinion, if it did not confirm it.

The Shawnees and Delawares as being nearest immediate danger appear to have