

the Miramichi, and in the Bay Chaleurs, were Micmacs. But it is not certainly known of what tribes those were, who were first found at Stadacona, Cap Rouge, and Hochelaga. Some think they were Iroquois, who were afterwards driven away by the Algonquins, Hurons, and Montagnais.

"41. In outward appearance and habits these savages were very much alike. Their skins were of a dark reddish colour. They had coarse, black hair, high cheek bones, and piercing eyes, deep sunk in their sockets. They were very swift of foot, and active. Their chiefs and warriors were without beards, because they used to pull out the hairs from their faces; also, it was common for them to keep only a single tuft of hair on the crown of the head. On their bodies they smeared grease and streaks of paint or dye. In winter, they clothed themselves with the skins of wild animals. They lived chiefly by hunting and fishing. But some tribes also filled the ground and raised gourds, melons, and maize, or *Indian Corn*. Their dwellings, or *wigwams*, were shaped like tents, made with poles, and covered with sheets of bark.

"Hunting, fishing, and making war, were the occupations of the men. These thought it beneath them to work at any kinds of labour, and left all this to the women, as well as all the care of their children.

"In disposition the Savages were fierce, cruel, and cunning. They seldom forgave an affront. They used to *scap* the enemies whom they had killed, and to torment those whom they had taken alive. They bore fatigue, hunger, cold, and bodily pain, without shrinking or complaining. Even when tormented by their enemies they scorned to utter any cries except those of defiance. In fact, they gloried in shewing that they could not be made to heed pain.

"In the chase, and in war, they made use of various weapons—bows and arrows, knives, clubs, and *tomahawks*. When they came to know Europeans they learned to use firearms. For moving about upon the lakes and rivers, they had *canoes* made of bark. They used tobacco, even before the Europeans came, for Cartier describes smoking as a habit common amongst them. On certain occasions, such as meetings of their chiefs, and when those who had been enemies met to make peace, they used a pipe with ornaments, called the *Calumet*. This was passed round, each person in turn taking a few *whiffs*.

"When not engaged in warfare or hunting, they, for the most part, spent their time in idleness. They learned the use of strong drink from the Europeans, so that drunkenness became common among all the tribes. They were also great gluttons.

"42. The Indians believed in dreams, omens, and evil spirits. As they were heathens, of course they knew not the true God of the Christians. Yet, they had a sort of notion of a Supreme Being, of whom they spoke as 'the Great Spirit.'

"We have here spoken of the savages, or Indians, because no one can pursue the history of Canada without some knowledge of them.

"43. We must next speak of the *Peltry* trade, that is the traffic in the skins of wild animals, of which mention has already been made.

"After the times of Jacques Cartier and Roberval, European traders visited the St. Lawrence to procure skins from the Indians. Both in the waters, and in the forests, the Indian hunters killed various creatures, for the sake both of their flesh and their skins. Amongst the chief were, the *Seal*, the *Porpoise*, the *Beaver*, the *Bear*, the *Otter*, the *Wolf*, the *Fox*, the *Elk*, the *Lynx*, the *Martin*, the *Mink*, the *Wease*, and *Muskrat*.

"The traders brought, in exchange, knives, hatchets, cooking-vessels, and pieces of cloth, besides many other small articles. The skins and furs, of which the Elk's and the Beaver's were most valuable, were thus cheaply procured. But, in Europe, the traders sold them at high rates.

"Afterwards, when settlements were founded on the banks of the St. Lawrence by the French, the peltry trade became a very great business. It was carried on by persons who acted for companies formed in France. In the course of time the traffic was pursued in the most distant parts of North America."

The "School History of Canada" is a much more pretentious work, and is good reading, quite in advance of the usual style of such productions. It is illustrated with several maps, and about thirty good wood engravings, some being portraits from authentic sources. It is furnished with a useful Table of Chronology, a series of questions for examination, and a copious index. This work will take a high rank not only in schools, but in private families, where a thorough knowledge of the history of this country is a desideratum. We trust it will find its way into every household, and assist in firing the youth of various extractions in this Dominion with an enthusiastic affection for the land of their birth; for, as was well said by the ever-lamented Thomas D'Arcy McGee, in words quoted by the author:—

"Patriotism will increase in Canada, as its history is read. "No province of any ancient or modern power—not even Gaul, when it was a province of Rome—has had nobler imperial names interwoven with its local events."

The following is a spirited account of the final battle of Quebec, 1759, equally honourable to the memory of the heroes MONTCALM and WOLFE.

"After overcoming a number of difficulties, and practising manoeuvres to deceive the French, he made the attempt a little before dawn on September 13th.

"259. Wolfe had issued a notice to his soldiers, two days before, 'to hold themselves in readiness to land and attack the enemy.' He also told his men that the French were discontented owing to a scarcity of provisions and the departure of their second officer, de Lévis, for the upper country. This, he said, gave reason for believing that General Amherst was making good his advance into the colony.

"Full directions were given to the officers and men as to what they were to do when conveyed by the ships' boats to the landing place, and how they were to act when they came on the high land above. In conclusion he stated, 'a vigorous blow struck by the army at this juncture may decide the fate of Canada. On reaching the heights, the battalions will form instantly, in readiness to charge whatever may present itself. A corps will be left to secure the landing place, while the rest march on and try to bring the French and Canadians to

battle. Officers and men will recollect what their country expects from them, and prove what a resolute body of soldiers, 'inured to war, is able to do against five weak French battalions of regulars, mingled with a disorderly peasantry. The soldiers must be attentive and obedient to their officers, 'as well as resolute in the performance of their duty.'

"Such were the words used in the last general order issued by Wolfe—words which animated his soldiers for the coming conflict, and which, uttered just before his own blood was shed on the field of battle, stirred the feelings of his countrymen when they were afterwards read in England.

"260. On the morning of Sept. 13th, the landing was effected without great confusion or difficulty. Those who ascended first, found, and instantly overpowered, a small guard on the summit.* The rest followed in single file up the precipitous pathway. When it was broad daylight the young commander-in-chief, with his generals, Monckton, Townshend, and Murray, and 4,800 officers and men, found themselves established on the south-east corner of the Plains of Abraham. All were on foot, for no horse could be made to climb up that steep and rugged path. With difficulty a small brass six pounder was brought up by some sailors of the fleet.

"The spot where the landing was made has retained, to this day, the name of "Wolfe's Cove." †

"When all was in readiness the whole army marched in files towards the city. The officers and men were in the highest spirits, feeling assured that Montcalm would now leave his entrenchments to fight. There was no spot, within the circuit of the season's operations, so suitable to their wishes as that whereon they now moved, and all looked forward with feelings of joy and hope to the accomplishment of the crowning event of the campaign.

"261. General Montcalm was misled, during the night of Sept. 12th, by the manoeuvres of the English ships and boats, in front of his lines at Beauport. These made him fancy that an attack was meditated, on the morrow, somewhere between the mouth of the St. Charles and the Montmorency. He was therefore surprised to learn, after daylight on the 13th, that the enemy had landed and gained the heights near Sillery. Obeying his military instincts, and perhaps, consulting his own sentiments respecting what was due to the honour of France, rather than reflecting on what might be gained by a short delay, he instantly resolved to confront General Wolfe, and to risk all upon the chances of a single battle. He mounted his horse, and led his troops across the St. Charles by the bridge of boats.

"When he arrived on the Plains, considering it important to allow as little time as possible for the English to establish themselves in entrenchments, he did not even wait, as he might have done, until Bougainville should draw near to support him.‡ Artillery, which we may suppose could soon have been supplied from the city, was not brought on the field, except two small field pieces from the lines of Beauport.

"262. According to the best authorities, Montcalm's force in the celebrated 'Battle of the Plains,' fought on the morning of Thursday, September 13th, 1759, was 7,500 men. That of Wolfe was 4,828 men and officers of all ranks. But scarcely one half of Montcalm's men were regulars, there being present 3,900 Canadian militia, who were but poorly armed and clothed. A body of Indians, consisting of Abenakis, Hurons, Algonquins and Christian Iroquois, covered the right of his army, stationed amongst bushes towards the St. Foy road.

"Although thus unequal in numbers, the two generals were still more unequally matched as respects the quality of their troops and their equipments; for Wolfe's were all trained soldiers, in the highest state of discipline, nor had they been suffering, as Montcalm's men had for months past, from the effects of poor and insufficient diet. The best of Montcalm's troops were placed towards the left and centre of his line of battle, where he commanded in person.

"After a hasty consultation with his officers, Montcalm sent them to their posts with orders to begin the attack. Some time before this, the skirmishers between the two armies had been engaged, spread across the plains in front. Behind these, and partially concealed by the smoke of their fire, the French regulars and militia advanced to the charge.

"263. After the first forward movement of Montcalm's line, the conflict lasted scarcely ten minutes.

"Wolfe, who commanded near the centre of his line of battle, had passed along the ranks to animate his soldiers, and to cause each man to place a second ball in his musket. He told them to bear the enemy's fire without flinching, until they came within 35 or 40 paces, and then return it at the word of command from their officers.

"As soon as the French regulars and militia came within the prescribed distance, advancing with great spirit, firing and rapidly reloading, the English poured upon them a discharge so effective that the progress of their adversaries was instantly arrested. A great many were shot down, to rise no more, and the whole left wing, recoiling before the deadly torrent of musketry, broke and fled.

"By this time Montcalm was severely wounded, and had his arm broken, but, regardless of pain, the gallant general strove to rally his left wing behind the centre. The attempt was in vain. His centre also gave way and the right had already begun to retire by way of St. John's gate and towards the St. Charles. The whole English line, now advancing, redoubled their fire, and then, quickening their pace, with bayonet and broadsword prevented the possibility of any second formation of the French troops. The fugitives from their left wing, coming upon those who were retreating in disorder from the

* The officer of the guard was made prisoner. At the time he was asleep in his bed. He was *M. Verger du Chambon*, accused formerly of misconduct at Louisbourg and Beauport. He was a friend of Intendant Bigot!

† A curious story has been told of the way in which Wolfe was led to know of the existence of the narrow path by which his soldiers passed up from the river to the Plains. It is said that *Capt. Robert Stobo*, while a prisoner on his parole, before he was tried and condemned, as has been already mentioned, had seen and carefully noted this path. After his escape to Halifax, he again came to Quebec, while the siege was going on in 1759, and offered his services to the General and Admiral. Whether the British commanders gave him employment, or not, is not quite certain. But, it is said, he informed Wolfe of the position of the landing place and the pathway. We do not read that Stobo himself ascended with the troops, to take part in the battle which ensued. Yet, if what has been mentioned be true, his information, on this occasion, proved far more useful to the English than that which he had before secretly conveyed to the unfortunate General Braddock. In the year 1760, the New England Congress voted £1,000 as a reward to Stobo for the services he had rendered. We do not know, however, what afterwards became of this notorious person."

‡ Bougainville was in command of from 1,500 to 2,000 troops stationed between Sillery and Point-aux-Trembles, and therefore in the rear of the English. Word had been sent to him in the morning. He arrived with a portion of his force too late to take part in the battle."

centre and right, occasioned a scene of inextricable confusion. A brief stand was attempted to be made near the St. John's gate by a portion of the centre and some Canadian militia, but soon the whole French force made precipitately for the St. Charles river, or fled into the city. The Highlanders and the 58th British regiment continued the pursuit until they came within range of the guns mounted upon two hulks in the St. Charles, not far from the bridge of boats.

"264. Immediately after the firing ceased it became known throughout the British army that their heroic commander was dead. He had been wounded three times. He was carried to the rear and breathed his last at the spot whereon the monument erected to his memory on the plains now stands. While dying he had the satisfaction of knowing that his own troops were victorious. His last command was an order to Col. Burton to march a regiment quickly down to the river St. Charles to cut off the retreat of the fugitives by the bridge of boats. His last words were 'Now God be praised! I will die in peace.'

"Wolfe's brave opponent survived until the morning of Sept. 14th. On his death bed he dictated a letter to the commander of the English, beseeching his care and protection for the French wounded and prisoners. The dying general also expressed himself gratified to know that he should not live to witness the surrender of Quebec. He complimented the valour and discipline of his adversaries, saying, 'if I could recover from these wounds I would undertake, with a third part of such troops as those opposed to me, to beat an army such as that which I commanded.' When applied to for advice, as to the steps which ought to be taken, he gave it cheerfully, but said, that as his time was short, he desired to be 'left alone with God.' Where he died, whether within the walls of the city, or at the general Hospital on the St. Charles—is not precisely known.* In fact, after the lost battle, the state of affairs in the city was deplorable in the extreme—nothing but confusion, distress and ruin, everywhere."

* Only a few persons—his surgeon, chaplain, and one or two of the principal officers of the garrison—are likely to have known whether the wounded general was taken to pass the last hours of his life. In that moment of supreme confusion few would notice or inquire about such a matter. Not a workman could be found to make a coffin for his remains, nor suitable materials. The steward of a religious establishment procured with difficulty two or three rough boards, out of which he made the rude oblong case into which the body was placed, previously to interment. Even Bougainville was unable to inform those who wrote Montcalm's epitaph of the place where the general was buried.

"It is not a little remarkable however that the exact spot was perfectly well known to the members of the Ursuline convent. One of them, when 9 or 10 years of age, with another girl, happened to see and follow the party that attended the funeral, which, according to the Quebec parish registers, took place on Sept. 14th, 1759. She saw the body placed in a grave prepared inside the Ursuline chapel. Afterwards the same person became a member of the Ursulines herself, and lived until the year 1835, when she was about 85 years of age. In 1833 the grave was opened. The skull of Montcalm was then found in a good state of preservation, and is now to be seen at the Ursuline Convent."

LEISURE HOURS, A SELECTION OF SHORT POEMS, &c., by John A. Lanigan Montreal: Kyte, Higgins & Co., Printers, 1870.

The author of this little pamphlet (38 pages) of weak and watery rhyme, tells us in his preface that the pieces "are the pencillings of a *minor*." We are glad to learn this, and sincerely trust that when Mr. Lanigan reaches man's estate he will devote himself to more useful employment than the jingling of silly sentences together to be called "Poems." "When I was a child I spoke as a child," &c., but babyhood is intolerable when it outlives the "teens."

Several notices of books unavoidably postponed until next issue.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The Brignoli troupe have given three entertainments at the theatre during the week. Miss McCulloch's singing was especially admired; and while all the artists, including the veteran Brignoli himself, were first class, it was somewhat of a disappointment to the large and fashionable audience which crowded the theatre on Monday night, that instead of the promised opera of *Il Trovatore*, only a series of selections from it were given. Though these were generally unexceptionably, and, in some instances very admirably rendered, the substitution of a mere operatic concert for the complete opera, was scarcely fulfilling either the letter or the spirit of the bond. On Tuesday evening the performance of *Martha* was admirable throughout, but on Wednesday—the last night of the troupe—the rendering of the opera of *Lucia di Lammermoor* was scarcely more than passable.

His Holiness the Pope has appointed the Honourable Mr. Langevin, C. B., a Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

WORKING OF PLASTER OF PARIS.—When two to four per cent. of finely pulverized althea root (marsh mallow) is mixed with plaster of Paris, it retards the hardening, which begins only after an hour's time. When dry, it may be filed, cut, or turned, and thus become of use in making domino-stones, dies, brooches, snuff-boxes, &c. Eight per cent. retards the hardening for a longer time, but increases the tenacity of the mass. The latter may be rolled out on window glass into thin sheets, which never crack in drying, may be easily detached from the glass, and take on a polish readily by rubbing them. This material, if incorporated with mineral or other paints, and properly kneaded, gives very fine imitations of marble, and can be coloured when dry, and can be made waterproof by polishing and varnishing. The chemist and chemical manufacturer will find it an excellent luting for vessels of every kind.

THEORY OF SLEEP.—M. Sommer gives the following in *Cosmos*:—"The blood and the tissues store up oxygen to be used as required for the various organic functions. When this provision is no longer sufficient to maintain the vital activity of the organs (the brain, nervous system, muscles, etc.), the body falls into that peculiar state which we call sleep. But respiration, continuing, introduces fresh supplies of oxygen. Of this a small portion, utilized for the production of heat, is given off as carbonic acid, while the remainder accumulates in the blood until sufficient remains to allow the renewal of all the functional activities of the body, and thus awakening results."