

Bishop Briand, a resident of Quebec, surely could not have been mistaken as to the date in alluding to such a recent occurrence!

Dr. Dionne also puts forth an important document, the text of the inscription on Richard Montgomery's tombstone at St. Paul's Church, New York, showing "31st December, 1775," as the date of his death. This inscription was prepared by Benjamin Franklin. Is it likely that such an eminent man as Dr. Franklin should have inserted this date thoughtlessly and without consulting well-informed persons on this subject?

Among United States travellers who have published books on the campaign of 1775 Dr. Dionne mentions the following: Sanson,<sup>1</sup> Silliman,<sup>2</sup> and a well-known American writer on the battles of 1775-81, Henry B. Carrington, who says: "It was not until the night of the thirtieth, when but one day of legal service remained for a large portion of the troops, that the preparations were complete;"<sup>3</sup> that is, that the preparations for the assault were completed only during the night of the thirtieth, when one day alone of legal service remained for the greater portion of the troops.

It was, then, indispensable not to wait for the 1st January to make the assault, as the term of service of a large portion of the soldiers expired with the end of the year. (Bancroft's "History of the United States," vol. vii, p. 121.)

Ill-clad, ill-fed, Montgomery's followers were little inclined for a winter campaign, fraught with exposure and suffering. Many longed to return to their homes.

Perauld,<sup>4</sup> Bibaud,<sup>5</sup> Smith,<sup>6</sup> Hawkins,<sup>7</sup> and Garneau,<sup>8</sup> who wrote at the beginning of the century, and who could easily collect the traditions of the past, are unanimous in fixing to the 31st December, 1775, the attack on Quebec.

"Then," adds Dr. Dionne, "all the recent writers on this thrilling period agree in recording the assault on Quebec as taking place on the 31st December, 1775—Charles Rogers,<sup>9</sup> who wrote in 1856, Rev. W. H. Withrow,<sup>10</sup> James M. LeMoine,<sup>11</sup> L. P. Tureotte,<sup>12</sup> and Faucher de St. Maurice."

<sup>1</sup> "Sketches of Lower Canada, Historical and Descriptive, with the Author's Recollections, 1817," p. 631.

<sup>2</sup> "Remarks made on a Short Tour between Hartford and Quebec in the Autumn of 1819-1820," p. 284.

<sup>3</sup> "Battles of the American Revolution, 1775-81," p. 134.

<sup>4</sup> "Abrégé d'Histoire du Canada, 2ème partie," p. 117.

<sup>5</sup> "Histoire du Canada et des Canadiens sous la Domination Anglaise," p. 67.

<sup>6</sup> "History of Canada," ii, 161.

<sup>7</sup> "Picture of Quebec," p. 427.

<sup>8</sup> "Histoire du Canada, 1ère édition, 1818," t. iii, p. 436.

<sup>9</sup> "The Rise of Canada from Barbarism to Wealth and Civilization," p. 62.

<sup>10</sup> "A Popular History of the Dominion of Canada, 1885," p. 279.

<sup>11</sup> "I. Album de Touriste," pp. 33, 70, et suiv.

<sup>12</sup> "Invasion du Canada et Siège de Québec, 1775-76, 1870," p. 47.