

usual to the redoubt, the garrison received them with such a murderous fire, that they were again completely routed. On the eighth day, the Iroquois were meditating their departure ; but, on being assured that the fort only contained seventeen French and six Indians, they thought that, should they, with their overwhelming numbers, give up the contest, it would reflect eternal shame on their character as warriors. They then resolved to die to the last man, at the foot of the fort, or conquer.

Accordingly, in advancing, they took to cutting junks of wood, which they carried in front of their bodies—a rude species of helmet, ball-proof. The French muskets, well-aimed, mowed them down by the dozen ; but numbers replaced the fallen warriors, bent on escalading the redoubt, and Dollard saw that in a few minutes the sword and the axe must be his last resort, before the close of an unequal contest, the issue of which could not be much longer doubtful : so, loading to the muzzle a large blunderbuss, and retaining in his hand the fusee, he attempted to let this instrument of destruction fall in the midst of the carnage, hoping that, by its sudden explosion, it might terrify the enemy. As bad luck would have it, the branch of a tree intervening, it fell inside of the redoubt, and spread death amongst the exhausted garrison. The enemy, taking courage from this incident, charged afresh. Dollard received his death-blow, but despair firing the expiring effort of the remainder, all seemed determined to sell dearly their lives ; and with the sword or axe, each man flinging himself in the *melée*, struck unceasingly, until he fell. The Iroquis, collecting their courage for a final assault, rushed on, and, bursting open the door of the redoubt, crowded in, when the few survivors, plying well and fatally their hunting-knives, were massacred to the last man. Europeans, and their Indian allies, all behaved nobly.

The news of the carnage was taken to Montreal by some