

the City of Montreal. Railroads, on either side of Lake Champlain, converge on the same point. A railroad from Rouse's Point, two miles south of Fort Montgomery, runs side by side with our frontier line, to Ogdensburgh, on the St. Lawrence.

It would be idle to ignore the fact, that thus much of our frontier, 150 miles in length is, as a frontier, difficult to defend, and, being penetrable at many points, exposes the south shore of the St. Lawrence, from Point Levi, opposite to Quebec, to St. Regis, to the incursions of a powerful enemy ; but to occupy it, and hold it in force, will tax all his power, he will occupy what he holds and no more, his advance will have brought him face to face with the real bulwark of the country, and the mighty St. Lawrence will teach him, " thus far shalt thou go and no farther. " But with the men and resources at his disposal, an incursion at this point must be regarded as a foregone conclusion. Entering Canada, from either side of Lake Champlain, he would descend the River Richelieu to St. Johns, and, expanding, fanlike, seize the Grand Trunk Railway and the port of Sorel, thus securing communication with Quebec by land and water, and could, at the same time, and by the same lines of communication, aided by the St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain Railway, appear before Montreal. All this presumes that no opposition can be profitably made, and that non-resistance, to a certain extent, would be our policy at this early period of the contest. But, between Quebec and Montreal, and the south shore, rolls the River St. Lawrence, averaging at the least, one mile in width and absolutely impassable in its whole length, in the face of the gunboats which could be brought to bear upon its waters. The recent construction of the fortified lines of Point Levi has rendered Quebec itself unassailable from the south shore. Nothing short of a renewal of the exploits of the immortal Wolfe, and a fresh battle on the Plains of