

If it had been well victualled and supplied with ammunition, Captain Kirke would have found it impossible, even with a much stronger force than that under his command to subdue it.

It was to the immortal credit of Champlain to have selected such a place for his settlement; situate upon the summit of an abrupt cliff three hundred and fifty feet high, whose base is washed by a deep and rapid river. Quebec is almost unrivalled for the strength and beauty of its position. But little good was this impregnable position to its commander, when, after a few days bombardment, he found his food exhausted, his ammunition running low, his men dying of disease and hunger, and no prospect of relief from any quarter. Under these circumstances, having done all that a brave man could do, M. Champlain sent in his submission and offered to surrender on the following terms:—

1. That Captain Kirke should shew his commission from the English King.
2. That Captain Kirke may come and cast anchor before Quebec for the safety of his ships, but he shall not quit any of them to set foot on shore before he has shewn his authority.
3. To be allowed a ship to take all their company to France; Friars, Jesuits, and two Savages; also their weapons, baggage, &c.
4. To have sufficient victuals in exchange for skins.
5. Favorable treatment for all.
6. To have possession of the ship three days after their arrival at Tadousac. The ship to carry about 100 persons, some of those already captured, and some that are in this place.

These terms were submitted to Captain Kirke, and with some little alteration, agreed upon, and the following agreement drawn up: