

of attack, notwithstanding the obstructions which the enemy threw in the way of his progress up the river; and General Amherst with the army from Oswego, approached in an opposite direction: both armies took post near the city on the same day, September 6, 1760. Colonel Haviland, with a strong detachment, lay on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, opposite to Montreal. Vaudreuil, perceiving that defence was hopeless, on the morning of the 7th proposed terms of capitulation; and on the 8th, the city surrendered, and was taken possession of by the British troops in the name of his Britannic Majesty. A few days afterwards, the French troops were sent down to Quebec, and thence to France, not to serve again during the war. Thus was the last, decisive act in the conquest of Canada performed without firing a gun, or shedding blood.

The terms on which the city was surrendered to the British were expressed in fifty-five articles, of which the most important were the following: That immediately after signing the capitulation, the English troops should take possession of the gates of Montreal; that the French should lay down their arms, and not serve during the war, but should go out by the gate of Quebec with all the honours of war; that the militia should return to their homes without being molested; that the Marquis Vaudreuil should not be obliged to leave the city before a certain day, and no person to lodge in his house till he left it; that the most convenient vessel that could be found should be appointed to carry the Marquis to France; that two ships should carry the Chevalier de Levi, the principal officers, &c., provided the officers should faithfully deliver up all the charts and plans of the country; that the free exercise of the Catholic and Roman Religion shall remain entire; that the Chapter, Priests, Curates, and Missionaries should retain a perfect liberty to exercise the functions of their curés in the parishes of the towns and countries; that the communities of Nuns should be preserved in their constitution and privileges, should continue to observe their rules, be exempted from lodging any military, and not be interrupted in their religious exercises, for which purpose safeguards should be given them, if desired; that all the communities and all the priests should preserve their moveables, the property and revenues of the seigniories, and all other estates which they possessed in the Colony, of what nature so-

ever they might be, and the same estates should be preserved in their privileges, rights, honours and exemptions; that all classes should preserve the entire peaceable property and possession of their goods, moveable and immoveable, merchandizes, furs, and other effects; that the archives of the Supreme Council of Quebec, and of the whole royal jurisdiction of the country, should remain in the Colony; and that care should be taken that none of the Indians should insult any of the subjects of the French King.

The form of taking possession was as follows: The capitulation having been signed at break of day, the troops marched into the town in the following order—1st. A twelve pounder, with a flag, and a detachment of the Royal Artillery, commanded by Colonel Haldiman; 2. Grenadiers of the line, by Colonel Massey; 3. Light Infantry, by Colonel Amherst; each party preceded by a band of music. The eldest Ensign in General Amherst's army attended to receive the colours of the French regiments. Having thus obtained peaceable possession of this important city, and brought the war in Canada to a happy termination, the General on the next day, the 9th of September, issued the following General Orders, which, as they formed the first public document promulgated in the name of Great Britain over her newly acquired territories, cannot fail to be perused with interest, and are worthy of being preserved in a sketch of Canadian history:—

“Camp before MONTREAL, September 9, 1760.

*Parole*,—KING GEORGE,—and CANADA.

The General sees, with infinite pleasure, the success that has crowned the indefatigable efforts of His Majesty's troops and faithful subjects in America. The Marquis de Vaudreuil has capitulated; the troops of France in Canada have laid down their arms, and are not to serve during the war; the whole country submits to the dominion of Great Britain. The three armies are entitled to the General's thanks on this occasion; and he assures them that he will take the opportunity of acquainting His Majesty with the zeal and bravery which has always been exerted by the officers and soldiers of the regulars and provincial troops, and also by his faithful Indian allies. The General is confident, that when the troops are informed that the country is the King's, they will not disgrace themselves by the