

this to the 9th, except two prisoners being caught and brought into camp from St. L. R., purchasing up provisions for the enemy. They had 300 dollars in specie.

Saturday, 9th.—General order for a number of fatigue men for erecting a battery on the heights of the plain, distant from the walls of the city 200 yards. This was all done in the night time when the enemy were not apprised of it. In the meantime Captain Wool of the artillery was ordered to proceed into St. Roques in an advantageous place to heave bombs in the city. This was complied with, and I attended the affair. The enemy immediately gave us a fire from the ramparts, whenever they could bring their cannons to bear upon us. What effect our fire had we were never able exactly to ascertain, but I believe nothing considerable, as the bombs were very small. The enemy's fire did us no harm, except killing an old Frenchwoman in her *brodel* administering a spirituous potion to one of our lads.

Sunday, 10th.—The enemy spying our battery, opened a brisk cannonade of their heavy cannon, in order to demolish it, likewise rushed out of St. John's gate in the cover of their cannons, burnt a number of houses, in one of which was a sick woman consumed. This was a distressing circumstance to the poor inhabitants, who were obliged to abandon their houses, notwithstanding the dire inclement season, and seek a shelter in the different parts of the country, where the humanity of the people would admit them. The view of the enemy in this *incineration* was to prevent our troops making a lodgment in them, and facilitating the operation of a general storm upon the city, which they had too much reason to apprehend.

Monday, 11th.—Agreeable to prescription, fifty-five more of the fire pills were given to the Carletonians last evening. Operated with manifest perturbation, as they were (as usual) alarmed. Bells beating, dogs barking, &c. Their cannonade still continued on the battery but to no advantage. Forty-five more pills as cathartic last night.

Thursday, 14th.—The snow or ice battery was finished last night, it chiefly consisted of first, a laying of fascines, then snow, to fill the interstices. The gabions were filled with earth and snow, little, however, of the former, as it was almost impossible to procure any, as the ground was very hard frozen. After the fabric was sufficient in magnificence to cement firm, large quantities of water were poured thereon. This freezing, soon formed into a heterogeneous body, not, however, sufficient to repel the monstrous force of their 32s and 42s, as sad experience soon proved. While mounting the cannon this morn, a shot came through the battery, killed and wounded five* of the train. In

* Meig's Journal, Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll. vol. 2, p. 241, (2d ser.)

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