

annihilating the French forces were allowed to pass away unimproved, and the consequences were a disgraceful defeat, great loss of valuable lives, a strict siege and much individual suffering. To De Levis must be ascribed energy and ability. but though a brilliant soldier he was not a General. The labours of the siege commenced next day by the construction of a parallel facing the three upper bastions of the city, these were St. Louis, Glaciere, and Cape Diamond bastions. On this parallel four batteries were established in expectation of heavy artillery, which had been demanded from France; another was placed on the left bank of the St. Charles to take the ramparts in reverse. It was the 11th of May before he could be opened from fifteen pieces of light artillery, and for want of ammunition only twenty shots could be fired from each in twenty-four hours. Meanwhile, Murray, when the panic was once over and order restored, set vigorously to work at strengthening the fortifications; parapets were constructed, and one hundred and thirty-two guns mounted on the bastions, three guns were taken from the works at the river side, which were thus left defenceless. The shot thrown from this line of defence told heavily on the French works and camp, and for two miles beyond, all they could do was to protect them and wait for succors from Europe. The whole force of the garrison amounted to 2,200 effective men, who conceived themselves to be so hard pressed, although their fire dominated that of the besiegers, that they were prepared to surrender if a French fleet arrived first in the river; indeed, from the fact that the whole line of defence fronting the St. Lawrence had been disarmed, it would have followed as the inevitable consequences of such an event. On the 9th of May the "Lowestoffe," frigate, entered the port, on the 10th Commodore Swanton arrived with the "Vanguard" and "Diana," frigates, and on the 17th attacked and captured the whole French flotilla. De Levis precipitately raised the blockade, for he could hardly be called a siege, and retired behind the Jacques Cartier; thus ended a campaign short, audacious, and decisive. As it completely exhausted the last resources of the gallant Canadians, it was the last effort possible—a desperate attempt to retrieve their fallen fortunes, and if the French Government possessed the slightest knowledge of their true interests, or the national honor, that effort would have been successful.

The result of the campaigns, ending in the blockade of Quebec, shows the folly perpetrated by the English Ministry in fitting out independent and isolated expeditions for a common object. The loss of Quebec alone, did not necessarily involve the fate of Canada. As long as the St. Lawrence was open, and that was a question to be decided by a naval engagement, not at all times certain as to its results, if a French fleet had first arrived in May, 1760 in the St. Lawrence the relics of the army sent out under Wolfe would have been obliged to capitulate with out producing any material effect on the general issue. Such a result might possibly have checked Amherst's advance, and confined his conquests to the South shore of the St. Lawrence and the line of the Ohio, while Canada would have remained an appendage of France, and the American declaration of Independence postponed, perhaps indefinitely, on what small matters great issues generally depend, is abundantly illustrated by the events of this war. In 1748 Britain was glad to accept a humiliating peace which lowered her prestige in Europe, endangered

her American possessions, and placed her in danger of a political and social revolution of the most disastrous kind. The war provoked by ambitious proprietors, reckless back woodsmen and dishonest Indian traders, was eagerly seized on as a pretext by unprincipled politicians, to recover what had been lost, and by extensive conquest make all sure in future.

France on the other side, was not at all unwilling to provoke a contest, which her politicians (made and unmade by infamous courtizans) thought would be confined to the plains of Germany or the Netherlands, carried on with little expense and end in further humiliation for her great rival. If Pitt had not succeeded in securing a position in the English Cabinet, such calculations would most probably be realized; the transfer of the first desultory operations which contemplated nothing more than restoring British power on the Ohio and South shore of the St. Lawrence, to a direct movement for the conquest of Canada, placed the French Ministry in a position they were by no means competent to fill. The demands of a profligate and licentious Court, the insatiable cravings of courtizans and their families had entirely exhausted the resources of the Kingdom and hopelessly complicated its financial affairs. No man of sufficient knowledge had arisen or would be allowed to deal with those questions. The interests of the Monarchy were opposed to those of the people; the nobility to both, and the clergy to all the others, consequently the whole burden of the State was borne by the lower orders, and they were steadily excluded from all share in the administration. As a necessary consequence, at the crisis of the contest for the possession of the Transatlantic Provinces, no assistance could be rendered, and they were abandoned to their own resources, so that a licentious and sensual Monarch might indulge his depraved tastes, thus sealing the fate of the Monarchy and depriving the country of the advantages of Colonial possessions. The gain to Britain was immense, the loss to France incalculable.

The incidents connected with the siege and capture of Quebec have furnished the literature of this country and Great Britain with some of its finest subjects in prose and verse, prominent amongst the latter stands the lyric of one of our Canadian poets, Carrol Ryan.

#### A TERRIBLE WOMAN IN THE FRENCH ARMY.

An extraordinary female military character is now an inmate of the hotel des Invalides. Lieutenant Madame Brulon, entered the hotel more than fifty years ago, and is the only female soldier ever admitted to receive its support. Angelique Marie Joseph Duchemin was born 1772. Twenty years later, found her upon the most exciting stage the world has ever known. Louis XVI. was beheaded and France a republic. Angelique was a wife, a mother, a *citoyenne*, a soldier. She served seven years in the various capacities of a corporal, corporal fourrier, and sergeant major. At the age of twenty eight, in the year 1799, she was admitted to the hotel, not because she was a woman, a widow, or a mother, but by her right and merit as a wounded soldier.—There she received her support and the small pay allowed to non-commissioned

officers, and in addition to this, for some time, a salary of eighty dollars a year as clerk in the Magazine of clothing. At the age of 35 she became the chief of this department with a salary of \$650 per annum. By her economy she was enabled to establish her daughter, and more recently aid her grandchildren and great grandchildren. At the age of seventeen she was a wife, at eighteen a mother, at twenty a widow. Her husband fell at Ajaccio, in Corsica. Three days after she learned his fate she took the uniform of his regiment, and demanded permission to avenge his death. Two brothers had fallen in active service, her father had died on the field of battle—her heart, head and hand burned to send distraction to the English and the Corsicans. She told the history of the siege of Calvi. Eleven months they had been blockaded seventy-five bombarded, but she brought relief to the garrison of Gesco, and the Cross of the Legion of Honor on her breast is the acknowledgment of her heroic action. Madame Brulon said she did not mind wounds in each arm nor fear the dark, but set out alone, at midnight, evaded the guards, roused sixty starving women, and led them to the fort, which was reached at two o'clock in the morning. She gave the women each half a pound of rice, which all considered an excellent bargain. Still later, at the siege of Calvi, all the cannoniers having been killed, the non-commissioned officers were called on to take their places; it was thus, while defending a bastion in aiming a 16 pounder, that she was wounded in the leg by the bursting of a bomb. This last wound disabled her for service and entitled her to a place in the Hotel des Invalides. October 22nd, 1828, upon the proposition of General de Lavides, she received the grade of second Lieutenant. She never threw off the military uniform but once, and that for a moment's amusement to her grandchildren when she assumed female attire. But the children instead of being amused burst into tears, and begged their grandma to go back again to her soldier's clothes.

#### LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

London, May 17.—In the House of Commons on Tuesday night an interesting debate took place on the petition of the people of Nova Scotia against the Canadian Union Act.

Mr. John Bright moved that a commission be appointed to enquire into the causes of the discontent in Nova Scotia, in regard to the operation of the Act of Confederation. Mr. Bright supported his motion with a speech, in which he declared that an investigation into this matter could not be otherwise than advantageous. If it was refused, the people of Nova Scotia would feel that they were the victims of a policy with which they did not, and could not, sympathize. Such refusal would increase their hostility to Canada, estrange them from England, and give a powerful stimulus to their sympathy with the United States. Justice to the people of Nova Scotia and generosity to the United States demanded this enquiry. The Ministry would be greatly to blame should any untoward event result from a refusal to grant this demand.

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