

"M. the abbe LeLoutre, missionary among the Acadians and Indians, encouraged them the best he could. He urged the inhabitants to work, and the Indians to annoy the enemy and to try to take prisoners.

"A habitant named Beausoleil\*, who passed for the most intrepid and energetic of the Acadians, promised the missionary that he would do his utmost to take some prisoners.

"Early in the morning of the 8th, Beausoleil returned to the fort to notify us that he had taken an English officer who was then being brought in, Beausoleil's men having had to make a long detour through the woods in order to avoid the enemy. A short while after, a small body of our men could be seen approaching with the prisoner by way of the marsh. He was received with much respect and politeness, and on giving his parole was left free.† He even received permission from our commandant to write to his own commander; M. Vergor also wrote the latter assuring him that he would provide every comfort for this officer.

"At daybreak of the 13th the English were seen at work on their first parallel at a distance of 450 toises from our palisades. They began to throw seven and eight inch shell from six to seven o'clock in the morning. At ten o'clock twenty Abenaki Indians arrived; they sang their war songs and promised to make prisoners.

"On the 14th I made representations to the commandant that the new shells which the enemy were throwing in on us were likely to pierce the bomb-proof, in which the English officer and some other persons whom we did not wish to expose, were put; that it was necessary to remove this officer from the place lest any accident should happen to him. This the commandant was willing to do; but the officer himself asked as a favor to remain in the place, saying that he would be less exposed there than in the trench. He was left there; moreover, everybody considered the bomb-proof capable of resisting the full shock of the shells.

"At ten in the evening the commandant received a letter from the governor at Louisbourg, in answer to the one which he had sent soliciting help. The governor informed him that he could not send him help. The habitants had been flattered with the promise of this succor, and believed we could not do without it. To increase our misfortune, these evil tidings leaked out almost

---

\*Beausoleil lived on the west bank of the Petitcodiac River a short distance from Moncton. It would take a volume of several hundred pages to relate his exploits. His real name was Brossard, surnamed Beausoleil.

†Hay.