[CASGRAIN] REMARKS ON "THE SIEGE OF QUEBEC"

5. The plan made in 1841 for Hawkins, in London, by James Wyld, geographer to the Queen; — the same formation of the French army is to be found.

109

In fact all the other plans we have been able to examine do not materially differ on this point; and therefore we controvert thereon the finding of the experts and draftsmen of Mr. Doughty on both their plans, and declare them antagonistic and unreliable, so far. We shall adhere to the plans, as they stand, on that point, and discard the average plan.

It is not supposed we are to be called on to prove the site of Wolfe's monument is the correct place where he died; therefore we shall go on to fix the exact spot where he fell in front of the Bragg regiment and the Louisbourg-Grenadiers, on the eminence where the gaol is now built.

Let us preface by adverting to Samuel Holland, assistant engineer and captain in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Americans, who was at the battle under Wolfe, also at Sainte-Foy, and at the siege of Quebec by Lévis, where he replaced the engineer MacKellar, mortally wounded at the last battle. Holland remained at Quebec till he crossed to England in December, 1763.¹ He was there the guest of the Duke of Richmond during the ensuing winter, and in the spring, 1764, he returned to Canada with the rank of major (?) and the appointment as surveyorgeneral of the province. He became a legislative councillor and died at Quebec, December 28th, 1801, being 73 years of age.

In his official capacity no one knew better than he the surroundings of Quebec and particularly the Heights of Abraham, which he had surveyed immediately after the taking of Quebec and resurveyed afterwards, as appears by the several plans from his office, and notably the one on the large scale of 200 feet to one inch, drawn by Wm. Hall and by him finished 1790, and where has been traced the meridian line established by Holland in 1785. Holland is one of the army engineers referred to by Jefferys as above mentioned, and therefore may be taken as one of the best authorities as to the incidents of the battle of the Plair and he knew exactly the spot where Wolfe was fatally wounded ad the one near by where he expired.

When he traced his meridian on the Plains, he chose Wolfe's redoubt (called by that name on account of the ground where the hero had fallen), and he located the first meridian stone at the southwest angle of the redoubt, with the intention of determining and fixing, as we really believe, the very spot for the future.

⁴ Cf. Captain Bentick to Bouquet (in French), London, 7 Dec., 1763, B.M. 21, 651.