Charleston, or Charles Town, as it was first named, is one hundred and ten miles from Savannah. It was noted for the refinement and wealth of its leading inhabitants, and their rancour against the British. The last royal governor, Lord William Campbell,* had been driven from the province in 1775.

On the 11th of February, 1780, the British forces landed at St. John's Island, thirty miles from Charleston, where they formed depots and built fortifications, and on the twenty-sixth of the same month advanced within view of the city and harbor of Charleston. Sir Henry Clinton had particular reasons for desiring the capture of Charleston, as a previous attempt, in 1776, had failed.

On Sunday morning, March 5th, 1780, Major Ferguson's corps marched from Savannah, and entered on a campaign that closed the career of its commander and a large number of the men whom he led, and which has had a momentous bearing also on the English race in America. As the movements of the corps are minutely recorded, day by day, in Lieutenant Anthony Allaire's diary of occurrences, we will freely quote from it, in relating the events that followed.

The army that marched from Savannah consisted of the following: American Volunteers, Lieut.-Colonel

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* Lord William Campbell was the third brother of the Duke of Argyle and was appointed Governor of Nova Scotia in 1766. Lady Campbell was a native of South Carolina, and a member of the Izard family, the richest family in that province. In 1773 Lord Campbell received the appointment of Governor of South Carolina, and removed to that province at the beginning of the revolutionary troubles. In his efforts he incurred the hatred of the revolutionary adherents, and in 1775 had to take refuge on board of a man-of-war in Charleston harbor. The following year he returned with the fleet under Sir Peter Parker, and while serving as a volunteer on the quarter deck of the *Bristol*, in the attack on the forts in Charleston harbor, was wounded and died from the effects two years afterwards.