



The Battle of Quebec.

FROM CAPTAIN JOHN KNOX'S "HISTORICAL JOURNAL OF THE CAMPAIGNS IN NORTH AMERICA FOR THE YEARS 1757, 1758, 1759, AND 1760."

Sept. 11, 1759. Great preparations are making throughout the fleet and army to surprise the enemy, and compel them to decide the fate of Quebec by a battle. All the long-boats below the town are to be filled with seamen, marines, and such detachments as can be spared from Points Levi and Orleans, in order to make a feint off Beauport and the Point de Lest, and endeavor to engross the attention of the Sieur de Montcalm, while the army are to force a descent on this side of the town. The officer of our regiment who commanded the escort yesterday on the reconnoitring party, being asked in the general's hearing, after the health of one of the gentlemen who was reported to be ill, replied "he was in a very low indifferent state," which the other lamented, saying, "He has but a puny, delicate constitution." This struck his Excellency, it being his own case, who interrupted, "Don't tell me of constitution: that officer has good spirits, and good spirits will carry a man through everything."

September 12. A soldier of the Royal Americans deserted this day from the south shore, and one came over to us from the enemy, who informed the General "that he belonged to a detachment composed of two officers and fifty men who had been sent across the river to take a prisoner; that the French generals suspect we are going higher up to lay waste the country and destroy such ships and craft as they have got above; and that Monsieur Montcalm will not be prevailed on to quit his situation, insisting that the flower of our army are still