

lery and several large mortars were erected in the most favorable position. A simultaneous attack was made by the fleet and batteries on the sea face of the Moro, but after six hours fighting the latter had to be withdrawn having suffered great loss and exhibiting much bravery with some cowardice—little or no impression was made on the works by the heavy fire of the ships owing to the great elevation they were obliged to give their guns, and the batteries were unable to injure any thing below the merlons of the fort the rampart below the cordon being too well covered by the crest of the glacis. The chief Engineer seems to have been singularly unskilful, of the condition or nature of the defences beyond the crest of the glacis he knew nothing. On the 2nd of July the grand battery constructed for the most part of timber and dry fascines took fire, no rain having fallen for 14 days, the intense heat and unremitting cannonade had dried them thoroughly so that it was with great difficulty that the embrasures were saved, and thus the labor of 600 men for seventeen days was destroyed in a couple of hours. As this battery was erected within 190 yards of the works, it was exposed to a smart fire of musketry from the ramparts which now opened on the parties engaged in endeavoring to extinguish the flames. Mortifying as this circumstance was it was rendered more so by the fact that no materials were at hand to reconstruct the work, and owing to severe labor, the climate, and bad management 5000 soldiers and 3000 seamen were in hospital. Owing to the steadiness of the soldiers and the perseverance of the officers new batteries were again erected, but on the 11th July these again took fire and were totally consumed.

The fleet from Jamaica having arrived with a reinforcement of 1500 negroes and a large quantity of cotton, which being used to fill the gabions, twenty guns were again mounted on the 16th, which in a short time totally destroyed the merlons of the fort attacked, although the enemy, with a praiseworthy courage, restored them with cedar logs every night covering them with a netting of thick ropes to save themselves from the splinters.

On the 19th everything being in readiness and the land works of the Moro silenced, a lodgment was made on the glacis when it was discovered that this face of the pentagon was covered by a ditch 63 feet deep and 56 feet wide at top, 43 feet wide at bottom sunk in the solid rock. To fill up or bridge over a gulf of this description was clearly impossible, and mining was the only means at hand to reach the foot of the rampart, but even that would have failed if a ridge of rock had not been left as a dam against the sea to prevent it beating into the ditch. On this the miners crossed with some difficulty, and made their way into the body of the sea bastion: A shaft was also sunk in the covered way with the intention of throwing the counterscarp into the ditch should there be any necessity for so doing. It was now evident that if not speedily relieved the fate of the Moro was a matter of certainty, and the Governor of Havana arranged for a sortie on a sufficiently large scale for the purpose of compelling the English to raise the siege.

On the 22nd July a sergeant and twelve men were ordered to ascend ladders placed against a spar extending from the sea bastion, reconnoiter the state of its defences and connection with the main body of the work, make no noise and retire quietly. On the first attempt he found the Spaniards vigilant, and was discovered, but being sent back he was fired upon. The alarm being

rung in the Moro, the reviville was beaten in the town, and the attack of the sortie precipitated.

The cliffs in front of the batteries against the Havana sloped to the water's edge, and were covered with shrubs. During the night 2,500 Spanish soldiers had crossed the harbor, and owing to the negligence of the troops and officers at Stuart's posts, were enabled to conceal themselves in the brushwood, intending to attack at dawn of day when the tolling of the Matin bells from the churches of the city must be their signal, but the alarm from the Moro hastened matters, and they now resolutely advanced on the batteries in their front, but owing to the courage of the men and the bravery and presence of mind of Brigadier General Carleton they were repulsed after penetrating to the trenches before the Moro with a loss of 485 killed, while 85 fell on the part of the English. This was the last effort made for the relief of the Moro, and the fall of it was merely a question of time. On the 27th July a part of the long expected reinforcements arrived from New York, whence they had sailed on the 11th June, under the command of Brigadier General Burton. Notwithstanding this aid the Earl of Albemarle was obliged to contract his posts from the unavoidable hardships attending such protracted operations under the fierce sun of the tropics.

All the historians of this expedition concur in describing the state of the troops as being most miserable from the combined effects of hard work, want of water and fresh provisions, and the difficulty attending the burial of the dead in a rocky soil, aggravated their sufferings by adding pestilence to the catalogue thereof. The details are too frightful—far exceeding those endured by the "Walcheran expedition" during the last Peninsular war. Of the reinforcements sent out and the force actually in the field a mere remnant returned with health so broken as to be unfit even for garrison duty.

On the 30th July two mines under the counterscarp and sea bastion were sprung, that under the counterscarp produced no such effect as expected being under the solid rock, but that in the bastion made a breach barely practicable for one man in front. The troops in the covered way had been withdrawn from fear of the rubbish, but now returned and opened a sustained fire of musketry on the top of the breach and polygon of attack; although there was no way of getting to the foot of this narrow breach but by the ridge of rocks before described, over which the assaulting column had to pass in single file, yet so paralysed by fear or apathy were the defenders that it was passed in safety, and the men formed on the rampart from which the Spaniards fled in all directions making a stand for a moment behind a small traverse from which they discharged their loaded arms, by which a loss of two lieutenants and 12 rank and file was incurred with 4 sergeants and 23 rank and file wounded—that of the Spaniards was 130 killed, 213 drowned or killed in attempting to retreat by water, 37 wounded and 310 prisoners. The Governor of the Moro, Don Louis de Velasco, was mortally wounded and sent into the city under a flag of truce where he died next day.

This siege had lasted forty-four days of open trenches—the guns of the Moro was immediately turned against the city—a further reinforcement having arrived from North America additional batteries having been erected on the Cavanocs, and all preparations made for a bombardment of the city. Lord Albemarle summoned the garrison

to surrender on the 10th August, but receiving a decided refusal the batteries were opened at day break on the 11th and before 10 o'clock the fire of the defences was silenced. At 3 o'clock a flag of truce was hung out and a cessation of hostilities agreed on till 12 at noon, at which period the articles of capitulation were signed and sealed and on 14th at noon General Keppel's corps took possession of the Punta Fort and Bastions. The conditions were the surrender of the garrison as prisoners of war, to march out with all its honors and be transported to Spain, the militiamen to be disarmed and retire to their homes, protection for life and property to the shipping in the harbor, and all Public property to become prize of war. There was thus surrendered 14 sail of the line mounting from 60 to 80 guns and three frigates besides a large quantity of naval stores with all the sugar and tobacco collected for the Spanish monarch who monopolised the trade and which alone sold on the spot for £700,000 sterling. Having settled all necessary matters connected with the establishment of an efficient garrison and the preservation of his conquest, the General withdrew the remaining troops and sailed for England.

On conclusion of the general peace in 1763 the Havana was restored to Spain, as it could be of no possible use to England except as a standing menace to that power. While Spain was thus suffering the consequences of her ill advised alliance with France, the latter power made a feeble attempt to create a diversion in her favor and if possible retain her fortunes in part on the American continent; with this intention a squadron of two line of battle ships, ten frigates and a bomb ketch, commanded by M. de Ternay, having on board 1500 land forces under Count de Maisonville, landed on the 24th June in the Bay of Bulls on the island of Newfoundland and obliged the garrison of 60 men at St. John to surrender as prisoners during the war. They also took the *Grammont* man of war in the harbor and destroyed a great number of fishing and other vessels in the North and South harbors, by which great damage was done to private property. As soon as General Amherst received news of this expedition he despatched a force of 1559 men under Col. Amherst, and a squadron under Lord Colville for its recovery, and on the 12th September he effected a landing at Torbay. After some desultory fighting Colonel Amherst having driven in all the French outposts, on the 16th summoned the Commandant of St. John to surrender, giving him half an hour to return an answer. His reply was that he would take the consequences, but on the 18th he proposed a capitulation and was obliged to agree to the garrison becoming prisoners of war, and thus ended the efforts of the French nation for the reestablishment of their ascendancy in North America.

On the 10th February, 1763, a treaty was signed at Versailles which restored peace to Europe, but stripped France of all her transatlantic possessions.

VICTORIA RIFLE CLUB.—At a meeting of the members of the Club held at the Wentworth Chambers on the 13th inst., the annual matches were fixed for the 18th, 19th and 20th August next, and a committee was appointed to collect subscriptions for the prize fund. It was also decided to accept the challenge of the Toronto Rifle Club, subject to some modifications as to the time and conditions of the match.—*Hamilton Times*,