

tain life, and there were regiments that went without biscuits for four days, and, what made it worse, were of a quality that even starving men loathed them. The biscuits were mouldy and had been made from the flour of sprouted wheat. The meal designed as poultices for wounds, the doctors had to order to be cooked as food for the sick and they reported that, without proper food and medicines, it was impossible for those under their care to recover. Dysentery, inflammation of the lungs, and typhus-fever soon became prevalent, but, more frightful than these dread diseases, was a paralysis of the limbs—a dry rot or withering of the extremities. The physicians ascribed its cause to the biscuits made from smutty flour, and were happy, in prescribing opium to relieve the pain of the sufferers, to find that the drug also counteracted the disease. Before Christmas one-third of the army was unfit for duty; how many died during those six dismal weeks is unknown. By that time, lumber had been obtained and huts were erected for those who had been under canvas, and the sick and wounded had been conveyed to Malone, which village was converted into an hospital. The conduct of many of the captains of companies was shameful. In the sufferings of their men they saw an opportunity of making money. They did not revise the rolls they sent to headquarters and drew pay and rations for men who had deserted or found graves on the banks of the Salmon river. The pay they pocketed, the rations they sold to the survivors. That there were honorable and patriotic men in the army is undeniable, but the majority of the officers were ignorant and unscrupulous; school-district and ward politicians, who owed their position to the influences of caucus and partyism, and who viewed the campaign as a means of enriching themselves. As depicted by those who served under them, a more despicable set of men never officered an army; blatant as to their patriotism and hatred of Great Britain, yet defrauding their own government and making secret offers to the British of the provisions and war-material they meanly purloined. On getting their pay, which was only \$4 a month, the soldiers spent it in buying food from the settlers, who came in sleighs from a great distance to find a market for their produce in the stricken camp. When the St Lawrence froze desertions increased, for it was known the British garrison at Cornwall was ready not only to welcome them but to