

to the defending force, or to approach, except with great caution. On this Continent and in this climate, time rules inexorably all military operations ; to delay an invasion is to defeat it. The enemy we are likely to encounter will not fail to take into his calculations the delays and the difficulties of the situation, and the cost of maintaining it ; and the balance of profit or loss will weigh in favor of those who fearlessly show that they are prepared for resistance.

Thus having disposed of the first 200 miles of our frontier, and having protected our communications between Quebec and Halifax, we will proceed from the point where the Ashburton wedge cleaves into Canada, to the line 45, to Lake Champlain, and thence along the frontier of the State of New York to St. Regis, on the St. Lawrence, opposite to Cornwall in the Province of Upper Canada, a distance of 400 miles. For the first 250 miles the line of the frontier follows the sinuosities of what is known as the "Height of Land," that is to say, the rocky and mountainous ridge which divides the streams which fall into the Atlantic from those which fall into the St. Lawrence. This rugged ridge is in military parlance "very difficult," the roads are few, narrow, and at certain seasons, impracticable. Vast forests still extend for many miles on both sides of the frontier. Any traveller who can recall the peculiar features of the country on the Grand Trunk Railway between Coaticook, in the Eastern Townships, and Island Pond, in New Hampshire, will be able to form a fair opinion of the general characteristics of the whole line. It is admirably adapted for partizan warfare, a war of guerillas, for such a resistance, as a sparse, yet resolute, population could best offer. It would be impossible to move a large army with its *impedimenta* through such a country. Burgoyne tried it ninety-four years ago and was destroyed ; a small force would be wasted in the attempt. The invader, too, would advance, without the apparent excuse of a military