

and a thing I believe to be a powder scoop, but which I could never quite explain to my satisfaction. It has also at the bottom an inscription, the lettering of which indicate that it is at least 100 years old, stating that the trophy was taken from one of the gates of Quebec, giving the date, etc.

"I cannot help thinking that this is a different trophy to the one you have already given a representation of, for the following reasons: It is unlikely that the copy of a trophy would leave out such an essential part of it as the inscription and the arms I have described. No mention of Murray's name in the trophy, as there would probably be had he given it, and the legend on it been written afterwards.

"There were three gates, I believe, in old Quebec, and there is every reason to suppose that each would have the Arms of France over it. The fact of this one being in a naval building, which is 160 years old, and there not being any tradition of the reason of its appearance there, makes me think that this trophy must have been taken by some naval officer who was with the fleet in 1759, brought by him to Portsmouth and presented to the Naval College there, at which he may have studied, as it was used by naval officers as early as 1720. Your more acute criticism will enable you to judge if these suggestions of mine are worth anything. In the meanwhile I hope to get you a photograph of this soon. It would be interesting to know if there is a similar trophy still at Hastings, and to which town General Murray sent the one you have the copy of.

"PHILLIP WOLFE MURRAY, R.N."

This interesting extract suggests several queries. By whom and when was the Portsmouth shield taken? From which city gate? Were there more than one shield sent to England? Was there a trophy or shield hung to each city gate of Quebec, under French rule?

More anon,

J. M. LE MOINE, F.R.S.C.