

as to do business, but my situation is entirely ruined without the consolation of having done any considerable service to the State or without any prospect of it." Touches always of doubt—touches which throw the event now so near into more dramatic relief.

The Anse
au Foulon.

When the stormy conditions passed, and everyone anticipated that the critical hour had arrived, the General did more reconnoitring. With Admiral Holmes and certain officers, all dressed as Grenadiers, he dropped down the river, examining every inch of the cliff with keen eye as he went, and ultimately took up his position on the south shore opposite the Anse au Foulon. By whom Wolfe's attention was originally drawn to this particular cove, or whether its advantages over others were detected by the General himself, is matter of speculation. Credit is generally given to one Major Stobo, a Scotch officer who was one of Washington's hostages after Fort Mifflin; Stobo, taken to Quebec, gave his parole, broke it and escaped to convey information to the British at Louisbourg. Biographers of Washington refer to Stobo as though there were no question as to Wolfe's indebtedness to him; but Stobo has been associated on the strength of his own representations with much in which he had no hand. Mr. Doughty, for instance, has disproved his claim to have been one of the heroes with Wolfe in the final attack; he left the St. Lawrence on the 7th September nearly a week before the event.¹ The essential fact is that twenty-four hours after the Brigadiers imagined that the assault was to be made on the enemy's position many miles higher up river, Wolfe was studying the spot within two miles of Quebec which ever since has been

¹ *The Siege of Quebec*, vol. ii, p. 114.