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FOR "THE REVIEW."

ON SEEING A PORTRAIT OF JACQUES CARTIER.

BY MARY A. RIVER.

What quiet thoughtfulness rests on that brow,
What calm resolve on that unsmiling lip,
Alone he stands as lost in reveries now
Upon the deck of his own gallant ship
Was such his attitude, was such his mien.
When Canada's wild shores burst on his sight,
Or did he gaze thus moveless and serene
Upon its dim coasts by the parting light?
Ah, if indeed on these that far-off glance
In all its fixed intensity was cast,
Methinks 't was thus he mused of his loved France
And the vain visions of a youth long past,
Quitting a strange strand to return no more,
For the fair land which had been his before.
Ottawa, July, 1868.

THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1754-64.

CHAPTER XV.

(Continued from our last.)

On the 27th of May the fleet sailed from Cas-de Naviro Bay, in the island of Martinique, and by judicious use of its frigates and tenders safely navigated this large fleet through this intricate and dangerous channel. On the 2nd of June the frigates captured four Spanish vessels (a fifth escaped), by which the state of the Havana was accurately ascertained—which was that there were no fears of a visit from the English, that 17 men of war lay in the harbor and the garrison consisted of few troops. On the other hand the Governor was duly apprised of the advance of the English by the vessel which escaped. He had at his command about 4,600 regular troops, including 810 cavalry; and 9,000 seamen and marines belonging to the fleet, to this was added the militia and local corps, so that a force of at least 30,000 men were concentrated for the defence of the capital on the arrival of the British before it. The principal part of those troops were concentrated at and about the village of Guanamacoa, some three miles from the East side of the harbor and about the same distance from the little Bay of Coximar five miles to the Northward of the entrance to the channel leading into the harbor, the remainder appear to have been

posted along the coast to prevent a debarkation, but with so little judgment that no opposition was experienced or could indeed be offered to that operation.

On the 6th of June the fleet arrived off the Havana, and lay to about five leagues to the Eastward to issue directions to the captains of the fleet and the masters of transports with regard to the landing of the army. In order to effect that object the fleet was formed into two divisions—one to cover the debarkation and the other to be engaged in active operations cruising in the neighborhood. As there was not on board the whole fleet a single pilot or man acquainted with the coast Colonels Carleton and Howe were sent in shore with a couple of frigates to reconnoitre. All the necessary dispositions having been made the debarkation took place on the morning of the 7th, with such regularity and good order that all were ashore in about an hour. The landing was effected between the rivers Boca Nao and Coximar, six miles to the Eastward of the Moro. The shore on which this landing was effected is bold and rocky, unsafe as an anchorage and much exposed indeed during the whole period of the siege, the English vessels were continually obliged to guard against the danger arising from chafed cables the bottom was so foul.

From the spur on which the Moro was built a bold and precipitous ridge runs along the North Shore of the channel to the entrance to the harbor; at that point it bends suddenly to the Northward and is continued to the river Coximar running parallel to the shore about one mile and a quarter inland; this range of hills is called the Cavanaughs; they command the town and dock, and at the period of the siege the space to the Westward between them and the shore was densely wooded, to the Eastward an open cultivated plain extended to the village of Guanamacoa and around the head of the harbor.

Immediately on landing it was determined to occupy the village of Guanamacoa, and a road was ordered to be cut through the wood to the plain beyond; on this work being completed, after a smart skirmish, possession

was obtained of the village, thus cutting off all the communications of the town to the Eastward. As the Spaniards still held a post on the Cavanaughs above the Shepherd's battery, it was determined to dislodge them as this work would command the flank of any attack against the Moro. To distract their attention it was determined to attack the castle or fort of Chorera, seated on the head of a small bay about two miles West of the city which commanded its water supplies, after considerable loss both positions were carried as well as the stone redoubt below the Moro.

The two bastions and curtain which formed the base of the Pentagon within which the Moro Castle was placed, mounted some 17 pieces of artillery, from 6 to 12 pounders, and as it was absolutely necessary to make the approaches on this face as the only one uncovered by powerful and inaccessible outer defences, the hardships endured by the troops were almost indescribable—as the sea face was a bare rock covered to the ditch with a dense forest of brushwood, the troops had to undergo the incredible labor of hewing roads from the beach and hawling artillery stores and provisions under a burning sun without any but a very scanty supply of water which was brought from the river Chorera, over six miles across the harbor's mouth. However, on the 1st of July, three batteries, viz: Left parallel, one mortar battery of ten 10-inch mortars and 12 royals,—Centre attack, one battery of eight 24-pounders, two 13-inch mortars, one of four 24-pounders, and two 13 inch mortars,—Right attack, one mortar battery of two 13-inch mortars, and one battery of one 10-inch mortar and 14 royals; as the parapet of the Moro was of masonry and very thin it was evident that such a fire would soon render the defences useless, and consequently after those batteries opened the Spaniards did not attempt to reply, and after the first day's fire they had only two guns remaining on the face attacked.

On the 29th of June they made a spirited sally from the town, but were easily repulsed with considerable loss. Meantime against the town, harbor and Punta fort sixteen batteries mounting nearly 50 pieces of artil-