



The Volunteer Review

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Military and Naval Forces of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. II.

OTTAWA, CANADA, MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1868.

No. 15.

For "THE REVIEW."

THE WOUNDED SOLDIER.

By MARY A. MUIVER.

"Two of us picked up a man in our arms to carry him off the field. A shell had struck him in the mouth, leaving an awful wound, which was bleeding profusely. I offered the poor fellow a drink from my canteen. One would not have guessed, in looking at him, that he would have thoughts beyond his wound at the time. The first sensation after a wound is well known to be of intense thirst, yet the soldier refused the proffered draught. I asked him why. 'My mouth is all bloody, sir, and it would make the canteen bad for the others.' He was 'only a private,' rough and dusty with the battle, but the answer was one which Phillip Sidney or the Chevalier Bayard, 'sans peur et reproche,' has not equalled when they gave utterance to the words which have made their names immortal."

Upon the field they found him lying,
Wounded, exhausted, almost dying,
A wreck of mankind thrown aside
By that red day's receding tide.

The fever in his pulses leaping,
Caused by that deep wound's crimson weeping:
Might not such pain make all else dim,
As a distressful dream to him?

But no! his heart was ever turning
With silent yet with ceaseless yearning,
To those who, by his side had fought,
Who shared in each unselfish thought.

Then those who lifted him so gently,
And scanned that suffering face intently,
Proffered a comrade's generous aid
Unto his wild thirst unallayed.

methinks a strange and sudden glory
Shone round that poor mouth parched and
gory,
As, mindful of his wound's dark tide,
The noble soldier thus replied:

"I might destroy it for the others."
He thought then of his suffering brothers,
And yet, perhaps, that draught brought light
To eyes less feverishly bright.

Ah me, the story is so tristful,
The simple words so sad and wistful,
I fain would place his unknown name
With Bayard's and with Sidney's fame.

Ottawa, April 1868.

BRITISH ARTISANS IN TURKEY.—The Sultan lately applied to the British Government for ten artisans to serve in his arsenal in Constantinople as instructors in the manufacture of machinery and war material, and Mr. John Anderson, of Woolwich Arsenal, was instructed by the War Department to make a selection, and has done so accordingly. The men are to receive £20 per month, and £20 each for travelling expenses.

[Written Expressly for "THE REVIEW."]
THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1754-64.

NUMBER VII.

At the close of the campaign of 1755 the fortunes of Great Britain had been on the wane, her losses were great and her success small and barren, yet a discerning eye might easily have foreseen the termination of a contest so unequal in every respect. The destinies of the French Monarchy were wielded by courtisans and their sycophants, the best interests of the country neglected, its people trampled underfoot and its resources uselessly squandered; no care was taken to preserve its transatlantic possessions which were abandoned to their own resources; in fact the whole institutions of the Kingdom were effete and the catastrophe which overthrew Throne and Altar thirty-six years later, merely swept away so much useless rubbish, the last ruins of the old Feudal system. Assailed by a resolute foe who might be foiled, beaten and outwitted, but who would not desist from the pursuit of the object in view. The final issue might be postponed but it was inevitable.

Major General Shirley had been ordered to return to England as his conduct had at last excited suspicion that he was not qualified to fill the post he held, he was succeeded by the Earl of Loudon, whose indecision of character and habits of procrastination were so notorious that he was compared by Franklin to the figure of St. George on a Tavern sign board, always on horseback but never advancing. The French Governor General of Canada was the Marquis de Vaudreuil de Cavagnal, who had been Governor of Louisiana, a thorough soldier and a Statesman, possessed of energy, zeal, and the knowledge and experience necessary to turn these qualities to account. Great was the need of the Franco-American colonies for all the assistance his energy and enterprise could bring to their aid: they had engaged in a contest in which they were fearfully over-matched, and no reliance could be placed on assistance from the Mother Country. At its commencement the whole number of people in Cape Breton, Acadia, Canada, Louisiana and her other continental possessions did not exceed 80,000 souls, while the British Provinces numbered 1,200,000. History does not present

a more noble spectacle than the conduct of those gallant French Canadians in this contest for Empire and National existence; alone, cut off from all succour, dependent on their own resources, they kept a powerful enemy at bay during six eventful campaigns and only laid down the arms on the most honorable conditions, when opposition was no longer possible. Honorably, bravely, honestly, and with the faith of gallant soldiers they fulfilled the obligation of their allegiance to their country and Sovereign, and only transferred it when that Sovereign, worthless as he was, permitted the exchange. History tells since how scrupulously their descendants have done their duty in the same relations, and the high place they fill in British America is due to the principles of honor which have ever been their distinguishing trait as a people; the only other similar example is that afforded by the descendants of the U. E. Loyalists.

The Canadian forces numbered 7,800 men and 2,800 regular soldiers, the British forces actually embodied amounted to 15,000 men, of which the regular troops formed an inconsiderable item by no means effective; few if any Indians adhered to the English, the great mass of warriors, probably amounting to 2,000 all told, cast in their fortunes with the French whom they served ably and well. On the Earl of Loudon's appointment as commander-in-chief, he was commissioned as Governor of Virginia, and as he was already Colonel of one Regiment his anticipated services were paid in advance by making him Colonel of another which was to be raised for him to consist of four Battalions, to be called the Royal Americans and to be officered chiefly by foreigners. As his Lordship's multifarious employments did not afford him sufficient leisure to start for the scene of his labours at once, he sent over Major General Abercrombie as his representative and second in command.

His predecessor, Governor Shirley, had a penchant for planning expeditions but was wholly unequal to the performance of any; he had amused his leisure before his recall in preparing plans of a Winter campaign, but it remained with the Canadians to realise the idea.

The Chevalier de Levi, at the head of 300 men, left Montreal on the 17th of March, on skates, and having reached Fort La Presentation (Ogdensburgh) exchanged them for snow-shoes; thence, after a long fatiguing and tedious journey of over 120 miles through dense forests, by Indian paths, suddenly appeared before Fort Bull, on the Oneida Portage at the head of the lake of the same name, and summoned it to surrender. This Fort was a block-house having loopholes for musketry, but so strangely formed that they