

Thus ended a project, ill-managed and unfortunate in its very commencement; for the army that was to have laid siege to Montreal, and co-operated with the naval forces, was dispersed, as already stated, ere the arrival of the latter at Quebec. And when there, the object of the expedition was, in the first instance, endangered by unnecessary delay, and rendered nugatory by subsequent precipitation and want of concert in the leaders; so that, with a cost of £40,000 to New England, it threw a shade upon the national renown which it needed the brilliant laurels, gathered long afterwards upon the same field, entirely to dispel.

The defeat of Admiral Phipps was more than compensated for by the victory of the immortal Wolfe in 1759.

The struggle, however, was not yet complete. There was another enemy, more potent and inexorable than man, watching the movements of the baffled fleet and opposed to its return—an enemy which it was powerless, indeed, to evade.

The stern tyrant of those northern shores was already marshalling his forces, to burst with tempestuous wrath upon the land delivered up, for so many dreary months, to his control. Winter sat scowling upon the neighbouring hills, and no one could tell at what moment he might hurl